

Hafa Adai!

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75¢

25 pct pension payments not out yet

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Payment of retirees' deferred 25 percent pension from Oct. 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 didn't hit their accounts yesterday as expected. But the administration said it is now in the hands of the bank, and not the NMI Retirement Fund or the government.

Acting press secretary Ivan Blanco said the funds have been released from the government side to the NMI Retirement Fund account.

"I'm sure the banks are working diligently to release the funds," Blanco told *Saipan Tribune*.

Funds from Best Sunshine International Ltd.'s \$30-million deposit related to its receipt of an exclusive Saipan integrated casino resort license will be used to pay re-

See PENSION on Page 4

Election law fix is needed for Saipan senator special election

» **Senate president poised to officially notify governor today of vacancy**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) said yesterday that he will officially notify Gov. Eloy S. Inos today of a vacancy in the Senate following floor leader



Torres

election or the election law will have to be amended to ensure it coincides with the Nov. 4 general elections for cost and logistics considerations.

If and when the governor immediately proclaims a special election, that would fall on a date much earlier than Nov. 4.

See ELECTION on Page 4

CMS approves CHC's corrective action plan, hospital not recertified yet

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services has approved the hospital's corrective action plan, according to Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther Muna.

Muna confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* that while the hospital



» **Muna: Approval of corrective action plan can lead to recertification**

was not recertified yet, CHCC had received an unofficial statement that its corrective plan has been approved and CMS will be sending an official letter soon.

Muna noted that it was the first time the corrective action plan was accepted by CMS and that CMS executive Rufus Arthur sent the letter.

"What we need to do now is make sure that the plans are still active and [that we] still [need to] enforce the plans," Muna said.

Muna said that CMS will be monitoring the way the plan is set. Muna said that they have an instructor as of now from the University of Hawaii who

See CMS on Page 4



BUDGET HEARING

Northern Marianas College officials led by president Dr. Sharon Hart, left, answers questions from the Senate Fiscal Affairs and Education Committees at last week's hearing on NMC's fiscal year 2015 budget.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

INSIDE



NATION

A grisly video released Tuesday shows Islamic State militants beheading American journalist James Foley.

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FOCUS

Behold the cascade of baby photos, the flood of funny kid anecdotes and the steady stream of school milestones on Facebook.

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ENVIRONMENT

Workers at a state-of-the-art solar plant in the Mojave Desert have a name for birds that fly through the plant's concentrated sunrays.

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Local

AT ROBERTO'S ONGOING TRIAL

Father of 1 of alleged 3 victims takes witness stand

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The father of one of the three minor girls, who were allegedly persuaded or enticed by former acting CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife director Raymond B. Roberto to have sex with him for a fee, took the witness stand yesterday.

The father testified that Ro-

berto was dating his sister so his minor daughter called the defendant "Uncle Ray."

The 40-year-old Roberto is on trial on one count of witness tampering and three counts of enticing three underage girls to engage in prostitution.

When *Saipan Tribune* left the courtroom late yesterday afternoon, Guam attorney David J. Lujan, one of two counsels for

Roberto, was still cross-examining the owner of Parville Motel in Gualo Rai. Lujan is expected to resume his cross-examination on the owner today, Thursday.

Lujan and co-counsel Joaquin Torres elected not to hold their opening statements.

In the U.S. government's opening statements, Assistant U.S. Attorney Rami S. Badawy said the case is all about the

40-year-old Roberto who persuaded and enticed three 15-year-old girls to have sex with him for a fee.

Badawy said when the scheme was discovered, Roberto contacted a woman to obstruct the criminal case.

After the opening statements, Badawy and co-counsel U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and NMI Alicia A.G. Limtiaco called their first witness—the father of one of the alleged victims.

The father testified that his then 15-year-old daughter ran away from his residence either on April 10 or 11, 2013.

He said he looked for his daughter by asking her mother, who at the time had custody of her. He said he also checked his other relatives to inquire her whereabouts.

During cross-examination by

Lujan, the father agreed that he did not call the police after 24 hours when his daughter ran away. He explained that he did not call the police because she was under the custody of his former common-law wife and that he was also not sure whether she's only hiding in the closet.

He said when he later talked to his daughter on the phone, he asked her about having sex with Roberto, but she did not want to talk about it because she was ashamed.

Asked by Lujan why during his interview with two FBI special agents last March 6, he (father) told them that his daughter ran away in March 2013, and not April 10 or 11, 2013, the father said he is certain that it was either April 10 or 11, 2013 when she ran away because at that time his girlfriend delivered a baby in the hospital.

The father said it's either he made the incorrect date of March 2013 or the FBI committed the mistake.

He said he saw his daughter at the airport when she was going to Guam on the late part of 2013 or early 2014.

Before leaving for the airport, he also talked to her about 3 to 4 minutes in the hospital when he handed her clothes and other things that they bought for her.

He said Division of Youth Services people brought his daughter to the hospital to meet him.

Manglona did not allow the father to answer Lujan's questions whether he spent time in jail before and if he has ever been accused of molesting a minor girl.

After the father, the prosecution called IT&E Information Technology Building manager Jorge Soledad to the witness stand.

Soledad testified about how, pursuant to the federal agents' subpoena, he produced the text messages from the cellular phones belonging to Roberto and the alleged victims.

See **FATHER** on Page 4



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PROJECT-BASED VOUCHER PROGRAM

NOTICE OF OWNER SELECTION

Pursuant to Section 19.3.2 I. of NMHC's Section 8 Administrative Plan and 24 CFR § 983.51 (d), this is to notify the public of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's (NMHC) selection of the following owners for its Section 8 Project-Based Voucher (PBV) program:

- 1. Tasi Homes, LLC; and**
- 2. Tang's Corporation**

Furthermore, on August 6, 2014, the NMHC Board of Directors approved 12 PBVs for the Tasi Homes proposed housing development and 10 PBVs for Tang's Corporation development. As such, preliminary award letters have been issued to both companies. Execution of the Agreement of Housing Assistance Payment (AHAP) contract and awarding of a Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) contract is subject to a successful environmental review of both properties and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's approval of the mandatory subsidy layering review.

For more information, please contact Mr. Kimo Rosario, Program and Housing Division Manager, at (670) 234-6866 or at phdmanager@nmhc.gov.net during regular business hours.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

AFTER DPL PAYS \$800,000 \$2M additional Saipan land compensation eyed

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Over 200 Saipan families whose private properties were taken by the government for roads and other public uses could expect an additional \$2 million in land compensation under a new plan that Rep. Anthony Benavente (Ind-Saipan) is working on. Benavente authored the local bill that paved the way for the release of \$800,000 in land compensation by mid-September.

"These landowners have waited for far too long for payments from the government," Benavente told *Saipan Tribune*.

Benavente, chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, said the source of the \$2 million will also be the Managaha landing fee, the same source of funds for the \$800,000.

"I plan to introduce the bill after the Department of Public Lands already released the \$800,000. For me, whether there's already judgment or not, families whose lands were certified to be taken should be included. The reason why some families' issues have not been adjudicated yet is that they don't have money to pay lawyers," Benavente added.

Benavente's House Local Bill 18-45, Draft 1 became Saipan Local Law 18-19 without the governor's signature on July 19. Within 60 days of the bill becoming local law, the land payments have to be made; that would be by mid-September.

As of yesterday, there's no telling whether DPL would wait until mid-September to release the \$800,000 in land compensation payments.

The same local law gives \$100,000 to the NMI Museum of History and Culture, and another \$100,000 to a non-profit group NMD Corp., using funds also from the Managaha landing fee.

Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan), chairman of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, said yesterday he supports Benavente's plan to introduce another local bill appropriating funds to pay landowners.

If and when Benavente's \$2-million bill passes the delegation and becomes law, it will be the biggest land compensation payment in recent years.

Under the \$800,000 land compensation payment local law, at least 223 Saipan landowners will get anywhere from 89 cents to over \$190,000 based on DPL data.

NMC tells Rotary it needs temporary, permanent instructors

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College has eight positions for either temporary or permanent instructors for the Math and English departments.

This according to NMC dean of academic and services Barbara Merfalen, who served as guest speaker recently at the weekly Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Merfalen told *Saipan Tribune* after the meeting that they have hired some teachers already, but they are taking time to get to Saipan, so NMC faces the challenges on the lack of teachers for English and Math.

"We need some [teachers] for either temporary or permanent and we are looking at possibly eight right now for English and Math altogether," Merfalen said.

According to Merfalen, so far the NMC instructors and staff are helping each other in covering the courses until the time off-island instructors arrive on Saipan. Merfalen didn't disclose the information on when they would arrive.

Merfalen said that teachers will be paid in accordance to their degree. For a bachelor's they will be paid \$500 per credit, for a masters they will be paid \$700 per credit, and a doctorates will be paid \$900 per credit.

For example, if a course is

being taught for four credits and the instructor holds a bachelor's they will be getting paid \$500 per credit which will equal \$2,000.

In related news, Merfalen told reporters present that NMC will stay strong if their budget is not passed by Legislature.

"What they need to remember is that anytime that we offer a class or a new program, we also look at ways to do things internally to assist those programs that we offer," Merfalen said. "Everyday we are ready because we must be prepared for the students," she added.

Merfalen said that they are working on grants as they have been doing to provide funding for NMC.

Manglona suspends Quichocho from law practice in federal court

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has suspended lawyer Ramon K. Quichocho from the practice of law in federal court for a period of three years.

Manglona issued the suspension order last Aug. 13, but unsealed that order only on Tuesday.

On May 28, 2014, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho issued an order suspending Quichocho's license to practice law for three years for professional misconduct by using a legal tool to harass a former client to get payment. Camacho's decision took effect 30 days after the order.

Last July 9, Manglona ordered respondent Quichocho to show cause why the identical discipline should not be imposed in federal court.

Manglona said her show cause order was mailed to the respondent the following day, July 10.

In her order suspending Quichocho, Manglona said more than 30 days have passed, and respondent has not requested a hearing.

Wherefore, the judge said, pursuant to Local Disciplinary Rule 16(c), Quichocho is suspended from the practice of law in the District for the NMI for three years.

The suspension will be effective 30 days after the entry of the order, Manglona said.

"Respondent must comply with all requirements of Local Disciplinary Rule 17 consistent with his duties as a suspended attorney," the judge said.

After expiry of the period of suspension, Manglona said, Quichocho may not resume practice until reinstated by federal court's order pursuant to Local Disciplinary Rule 18.

In Camacho's suspension order, the judge noted that Quichocho's actions were not based in negligence or mistake, but instead were intentional, calculated to obtain payment from a former client through the misuse of legal mechanisms. Camacho said Quichocho's conduct warrants a serious sanction, but finds that disbarment is too severe given the persuasive decisions of other



Quichocho

er courts faced with fact patterns similar to the case at hand.

Camacho said the respondent shall not be reinstated unless he provides proof that he has passed the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination with a scaled score of 80 or higher within one year prior to his application for reinstatement.

Quichocho was required to comply with all requirements of Rule 15 of the Disciplinary Rules and Procedures of the CNMI Supreme Court. He was ordered to pay all costs and attorney's fees in connection with the case.

The case rises out of allegations that Quichocho vio-

lated provisions of the Model Rules of Professional Conduct by acting in concert with his wife, Frances, and his uncle, Felipe Atalig, to submit a series of Open Government Meetings and Records Act requests to his former client, the Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan, in order to press the client to make payments for legal services.

Last July 30, Quichocho informed the Superior Court that he is currently in Tacoma, Washington and that he already closed down his office on Saipan.

Last July 15, Camacho ordered the disbarment of Quichocho from the practice of law in CNMI courts for professional misconduct in representing his then-client, Jung Ja Kim.

Last March 28, a federal jury reached a unanimous verdict, holding Quichocho and his wife, and his law firm liable to pay \$2.4 million in damages to Kim, who filed a racketeering lawsuit against them.

Last July, Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman also ordered a public reprimand against Quichocho for professional misconduct in connection with another Bar complaint.

Is the best 4G experience here?

By **THOMAS MANGLONA II**
CORRESPONDENT

IT&E has been advertising its new and improved data plan as the "best 4G experience in the Marianas." The telecommunications company launched HSPA+ 4G on July 14, 2014, according to IT&E Sales and Marketing manager Hans Mickelson.

"High Speed Package Access+ 4G speeds are much higher than regular 3G," he said.

The heavily advertised 4G experience covers destinations on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. In an IT&E commercial, users are seen experiencing 4G speeds at locations such as Garapan, the Saipan Grotto, and Mount Tapochau.

Mickelson added that the 4G technology is the fastest service possible for the islands to have at the moment. CNMI users are now experiencing speeds of 16mbps and higher.

One IT&E employee, who has worked for the company for over a decade, said that phone users covered by the 3G Data plan under Docomo Pacific experience speeds of only 5mbps.

"With the generation of social media and online movies this is a big leap because now IT&E speeds can handle those needs," he added.

For Netflix and Hulu subscribers, this means no more buffering while watching the latest TV episodes or movies on a mobile device connected to the 4G network. Customers are now also able to use Skype or FaceTime with a more stable connection.

"4G means a more robust experience for the mobile us-

ers on their devices," Mickelson told the *Saipan Tribune*. "Users will experience improved Web browsing, downloads, better speeds for streaming movies, music and gaming. Quicker logging onto Facebook, email, and other social networks."

In addition to faster web browsing, the 4G experience also means a wider choice of phones and devices, superior coverage throughout the CNMI, value in the form of airtime plans and ease of use when roaming to world-wide destinations.

Multinational telecommunications corporations like AT&T offer 4G Long-term Evolution, or LTE, which the New York Times calls "more impressive and the most advanced in terms of speed."

Mickelson explained that LTE is the next generation of mobile network technology and is not expected to be on Saipan anytime soon.




One customer, who requested for anonymity, said that his 4G experience has been unreliable.

"Sometimes the data would drop down to 3G on my Samsung phone." He added, "The data is expensive compared to other customers under Guam providers."

Is the best 4G experience here? Mobile users with 4G compatible smartphones can now encounter the "the best 4G experience" for themselves and decide.


With IT&E's 4G network reaching its one-month mark in the islands, the company is offering a 30-day trial for mobile users with 4G compatible smartphones to experience the network risk-free.

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6 MONTHS AFTER BOARD REVIVAL

CUC remains under state of emergency

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos has extended anew a declaration of a state of emergency for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., six months since the revival of a board of di-

rectors after a nine-year hiatus.

Continuing to place CUC under a state of emergency allows the governor to reprogram funds, and suspend procurement laws or rules to address such an emergency, among other things. The Legislature also continues

to accept the governor's CUC emergency declaration which is extended every 30 days. The latest extension of such emergency declaration was on Aug. 15.

The governor, in his Executive Order 2014-11, continued to cite a financial crisis and a technical

worker crisis for his latest extension of the declaration.

CUC is owed \$20 million by the Public School System and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., and is owed over millions more by residential users, the governor said.

Mainland helps monitor Hawaii quakes, eruptions

HONOLULU (AP)—U.S. Geographical Service outposts in other states are helping monitor Hawaii's volcanoes and earthquakes while work is done to repair Tropical Storm Iselle's damage to the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory.

Violent winds slammed the observatory early Friday, causing power problems and other damage to the computer system. The problems have caused disruptions to eruption updates, webcam imagery, earthquake

data and other information normally available on the observatory's website, the *Honolulu Star-Advertiser* reported.

Officials say complete restoration of the station perched on the rim of Kilauea Caldera at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park is expected this week. In the meantime, the National Earthquake Information Center in Golden, Colorado, is tracking Hawaii's larger earthquakes, while USGS volcanologists in Alaska and Virginia are keeping

watch via satellite imagery.

Winds also damaged 10 monitoring field instruments, said Kevan Kamibayashi, chief technician. A technician carrying a replacement part to repair a blown-out control circuit board was expected to arrive Wednesday, he said.

Crews had to use a helicopter Tuesday to reach and repair a radio repeater site on the east slope of Mauna Loa that workers normally are able to drive to. A tree lying across the road cut

off access, officials said.

The observatory staff "includes a very capable technical support group, which has designed our field sites to withstand hurricane-force winds and Hilo-style rains, and their efforts have really paid off," said scientist-in-charge Jim Kauahikaua.

If scientists observe any significant change in volcanic or seismic activity, the observatory will notify Hawaii County Civil Defense and other emergency responders.



TWO FLAGS

Labor Secretary Edith Deleon Guerrero and family hold up both U.S. and CNMI flags during last Sunday's CNMI Republican Party mid-term elections rally at the Civic Center in Susupe.

HANAIVY BABAUTA

CMS

From Page 1

is training CHC staff on quality improvement for both public health and the hospital.

"It's all about changing the values and that this [corrective plan, training] is important for the patient, important for the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., and the staff," she said.

CMS put off its decision on mid-January of this year and again on June 27, issuing a letter to Muna dated June 25, giving the healthcare corporation running the hospital another five months to correct citations previously cited by CMS.

On the June 25 letter to Muna, the extent of the deficiencies, complexity of making fundamental, systemic changes, and in recognition as well of the importance of maintaining access to the hospital services for CNMI's residents; CMS gave a chance to CHC to demonstrate the capacity and commitment to achieve and sustain compliance with all Medicare Hospital CoPs or Condition of Participation.

The prospective date of termination of CHC's Medicare provider's agreement was extended until Nov. 14, 2014.

CMS last September visited CHC and identified 13 deficiencies at the hospital. In January of

this year, CMS found that only four citations were considered satisfied, in which nine other deficiencies remain unresolved.

Muna said that they have addressed the concerns but are still working on a few, which is why the corrective action plan was approved.

"Before we gave the corrective action plan we had already been enforcing the plan," she said.

The nine deficiencies included the areas of the governing body's quality assurance and performance improvement, medical staff, nursing services, medical record services, food and dietetic services, physical environment, infection control,

and discharge planning.

However, based on the September 2013 CMS survey results, no immediate jeopardy was uncovered.

Immediate jeopardy is issued to a provider if a deficiency is likely to cause serious injury, harm, impairment, or death. The September 2012 survey identified three immediate jeopardy areas that were later addressed.

"As soon as the plan is accepted it will lead to recertification, but CMS might visit to see if the corrective action plan is being really addressed. But it is possible that the hospital might receive recertification today or tomorrow. We can't really tell," Muna said.

PENSION

From Page 1

tierees' deferred 25 percent pension and for interest payment on withdrawn defined benefit plan contributions. The latter is expected to be released by the Department of Finance next week.

As of yesterday, there is no telling when the funds will hit retirees' accounts but government officials said it would be soon.

Retirees should expect a nine-month payment, covering Oct. 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. The payments for the July to September quarter are expected in early October. Future disburse-

ments of restored 25 percent pension will be made on a quarterly basis.

Casino license funds were transferred from the escrow to Bank of Guam on Friday morning. Thereafter, funds were transferred from Bank of Guam to Bank of Hawaii. The NMI Retirement Fund processed the

payments, and as of Friday, funds were expected to hit retiree accounts yesterday.

The \$3.14-billion casino license agreement between Best Sunshine/Imperial Pacific and the Lottery Commission on behalf of the CNMI is the single-largest development in the CNMI's recent history.

Inos maintains that the CNMI's recent economic improvement is only marginal and that the economy and the government's finances are still fragile.

As with previous declarations, Inos said CUC often only has days' worth of purchased diesel to power its system because it lacks the funds to buy oil from its sole, cash-only supplier. CUC has no credit or other means to buy fuel than the revenue it collects from its customers.

The governor also said CUC continues to lack skilled technical U.S. citizen workers so it needs to continue to employ skilled technical foreign workers. Skilled workers and a responsive support system are

key to CUC's operation success, particularly for preventive maintenance.

The corporation bears a substantial obligation to deliver highly technical work on time to the satisfaction of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to two sets of consent or stipulated orders.

"CUC's renewal of contracts and hiring of foreign expert workers is necessary to sustain the integrity of CUC's systems. Thus, continued relief from the legislative prohibition on hiring foreign national workers is necessary to ensure the delivery of uninterrupted power services to the people of the Commonwealth," the governor added.

ELECTION

From Page 1

But Commonwealth Election Commission executive director Robert A. Guerrero recommended that both the special election and the general election be held on the same day on Nov. 4, considering that each election costs some \$70,000 to \$80,000.

But just the same, Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan) mulls introducing a bill that will prohibit those who have already been certified as candidates for the two Saipan senatorial seat to run for a special election related to the third Saipan senatorial seat that Yumul vacated.

Currently, there is nothing in the law that prohibits any of the seven candidates for the two Saipan senatorial seats from submitting their candidacy also for the third seat once the governor proclaims a special election, Reyes said yesterday.

"What if the same individual wins on both general election and special election? The law has to be amended," Reyes said.

Yumul resigned almost a week after his candidacy for lieutenant governor was certified on August 13.

Article 8 Section 5 of the NMI Constitution reads, "Resignation from Public Office. An elected public official shall resign from office upon certification to be a candidate for another public office, if the term of the office sought begins before the end of

the term of the office held."

Election Commission's Guerrero said the governor could also wait until early September to proclaim a special election, to ensure it coincides with the Nov. 4 general elections.

Under Public Law 12-18, "Special elections subject to the call of the Governor shall be held on a date set by the Governor which shall be no less than 30 days nor more than 60 days from the date of the proclamation provided for in Section 6502. The Governor shall also set the time limit within which polling places may be designated and declarations of candidates and nominating petitions may be filed."

The other option is to amend the law to extend the 60-day period so that a special election could be held also on Nov. 4.

The CNMI is actually headed for three elections this year—the general election and a special election to fill the Senate vacancy left by Yumul, and a likely gubernatorial runoff race, given that it would be hard to get at least 50 percent plus one of the votes cast among four gubernatorial teams.

Today, the Senate will hold a session mainly to tackle the fiscal year 2015 budget bill that the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee has been working on for weeks. Yesterday, the committee worked way past office hours to ensure the budget bill will be acted on in today's session.

FATHER

From Page 2

The manager agreed with Lujan that the messages that he compiled were not in chronological order.

Soledad, however, also agreed with Badawy that the text messages and dates and time were accurate.

FBI Honolulu computer program examiner Cindy Maglasang also testified that she conducted forensic examination on a cellphone and charger that the FBI Saipan requested for examination. The prosecution alleged that the cellphone and charger belong to one of the alleged victims.

After the Maglasang, the owner of Parkville Motel took the witness stand.

The prosecution alleged that Roberto brought the alleged victims to Parkville Motel several times.

The owner testified that he does not know Roberto or any of their customers. He will continue his testimony today.

The indictment alleged that Roberto persuaded three underage girls to have sex with him from March 1, 2013, to July 18, 2013.

In the witness tampering case, it was alleged that while Roberto was detained pending trial, he attempted to influence the testimony of an individual on April 24, 2014.

Manglona denies CPA police officer's motion to dismiss charges

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has denied Commonwealth Ports Authority Police Officer II Floyd M. Mendiola's motion to dismiss the indictment or suppress all statements he gave to law enforcement.

In an order issued on Tuesday, Manglona ruled that having considered the testimony of three of the U.S. government's witnesses and two defense witnesses, including Mendiola himself, three government's exhibits, and the oral and written arguments of both counsel, the court finds no grounds to support dismissal of the indictment or suppression of defendant's statements.

Mendiola's trial will be on Oct. 7, 2014.

Manglona determined that a promise of immunity from prosecution was never part of

the bargain between Mendiola and federal agents.

"For that reason, Mendiola's attempt to enforce such a promise and have the indictment dismissed must fail," the judge said.

Manglona said because the federal agents did not promise Mendiola immunity, there is no need to inquire into whether this case is exceptional.

On the motion to suppress, Manglona said because Mendiola was never in custody during any of the interviews, the statements he made were not the product of custodial interrogation.

"The agents were under no obligation to Mirandize him before questioning him, and their failure to do so is not grounds to suppress his statements," the judge said.

Manglona said considering all the circumstances, the statements Mendiola made in the April 2014 interview were, like

those he made in earlier interviews, a product of his free will and therefore voluntary.

"Because Mendiola was never in custody and his statements were voluntary, there is no cause to suppress the statements," she said.

Manglona conducted the hearing on the motion last July 10.

Federal agents arrested Mendiola last May 27 after an indictment was filed charging him with conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine or "ice" from Feb. 27 to March 2, 2013. He is being released to a third-party custodian.

Mendiola, through counsel Joseph Horey, asserted that the indictment should be dismissed because the U.S. government breached its cooperation agreement with him.

In the alternative, Horey argued that the court should suppress all statements he provided to law enforcement because he

was not advised of his Miranda rights prior to questioning and that his statements were involuntarily made. In his declaration, Mendiola revealed that he was an informant for federal agents on promises that, among other things, he will avoid criminal liability.

In the U.S. government's opposition, Assistant U.S. Attorney Garth Backe argued that first, Mendiola was never "in custody" during any of his interviews, and thus Miranda does not even apply.

Second, Backe said, agents followed routine and case-law approved procedures for non-custodial interviews of suspects.

Finally, the prosecutor said, agents never promised, much less even insinuated, that defendant would "get off clean" or be able to save his job if he cooperated.

Backe noted that indeed, if there was a breach of an "agreement" in this case, it

was committed by Mendiola, as it was he who revealed to others that he was working as an informant despite being

told on more than one occasion that doing so would result in the immediate termination of his cooperation.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP NO.: RFP14-OPA-142**

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 09, 2014
TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**"TO CONDUCT AN AUDIT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS (CNMI) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014.
A PROJECT UNDER THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR"**

THE SCOPE OF WORK IS AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER **AUGUST 14, 2014** AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT LOWER BASE DRIVE DURING NORMAL WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ MICHAEL PAI
PUBLIC AUDITOR

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its Government and Business customers that current billing of accounts are due on or before Thursday, **August 28, 2014**. Payments not received by close of business on **August 28** will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00PM on that day.

To prevent temporary suspension, customers are hereby advised to kindly pay their bills on or before Thursday, **August 28**. Disputed billings must be brought to IT&E's attention in person or in writing by Thursday, **August 28**. Customers must pay any current amount due, to avoid disconnection.

If you have questions regarding billing or services please call Customer Service at 682-4ITE (4483) or visit our Business Sales Center – Middle Rd., Gulao Rai office.



To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:

SHELL Service Stations – up to 4:00pm
Chalan Lualau – up to 5:00pm
Tinian/Rota Office – up to 4:30pm
TSL Plaza – up to 6:00pm
Online payment – up to 9:00pm

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on **August 25**, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before **August 25**.

**THIS WILL BE THE
ONLY NOTIFICATION
IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE**

You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than **August 25**. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service, Please call Customer Service at **682-4ITE (4483)** or Visit any IT&E CS Center nearest you.



To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:

SHELL Service Stations – up to 4:00pm
Chalan Lualau – up to 6:00pm
TSL Plaza – up to 6:00pm
Tinian/Rota Office – up to 4:30pm



COURTESY VISIT

From left, Rear Adm. Tilghman Payne, Commander, Joint Region Marianas (JRM), Guam Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo, Rear Adm. Bette Bolivar, incoming Commander JRM, and Vice Adm. William D. French, Commander, Navy Installations Command pose for a group photo at the Governor's Complex in Asan. Payne was relieved by Bolivar during a change of command ceremony last Aug. 15.

MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST 2ND CLASS (EXW) TIMOTHY WILSON

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act great opportunity for OVR

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Office of Vocational Rehabilitation will be complying with the new law of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act with several amendments that target the Rehabilitation Act programs.

OVR director Arlene Yamagata told *Saipan Tribune* that OVR receives different grants from the their federal grantor, the U.S. Department of Education, but the amendments of Title IV, Rehabilitation Act, under WIOA, will effect a small change to a different grantor and will be under the Department of Health

and Human Services.

Several transfers of the program from the DOE will transfer to Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Community Living.

These programs include the State Independent Living Services, Centers for Independent Living Program, National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, and programs under the Assistive Technology.

Majority of these programs are being used by disability advocates in the CNMI.

According to Rehabilitation Services Administration commissioner Janet L. LaBreck, who issued a letter out to Vo-

cational Rehabilitation directors, including Yamagata, to minimize any disruption in grantee operations or service delivery to individuals with disabilities who are served by these programs, Health Services and Education Department have decided that Rehabilitation Administration will continue to administer them until "an orderly transfer is completed as soon as reasonably possible."

Yamagata noted that the Independent Living Services for Older Individuals Who Are Blind program will continue to be under the Department of Education, in which the CNMI OVR has and has been conduct-

ing on Rota, Saipan, and Tinian.

Yamagata said that they are happy about the changes due to highlights of increase services to youth with disabilities under WIOA.

"We are happy to comply with the changes," Yamagata said.

She also said that state vocational rehabilitation agencies will set aside at least 15 percent of federal program funds.

Yamagata noted that this will provide pre-employment transition services to assist students with disabilities make the transition from secondary school to postsecondary education programs and competitive integrated employment.



DENNIS B. CHAN
The ribbon falls and local and Congressional initiatives are met with the opening of the Garapan Public Market, a place for centralized agricultural services.

Spirit of cooperation inaugurates Garapan Public Market

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In a spirit of community and service, the CNMI Farmer's Cooperative Association began their operations at the newly opened Garapan Public Market this week, as what they hope is a win-win partnership between producers and consumers begins in the Commonwealth.

"I believe [the Garapan Public Market] is not really for profit or for charity, it's for service," Ben Borja said, a retired agriculturalist and a member of the co-op said, on the market's unique business model that aims to be fair to everyone involved.

Borja described the opening of the market as a "second-chance" for himself and others who've tried to provide centralized agricultural services in years past but failed.

The idea of service was earlier echoed by former senator Maria Frica Pangelinan—president of the co-op—in her remarks to the audience at the market's unveiling on Monday—an opening that would not have been possible without the aid of volunteers.

"We had the help of the former ambassador of the Philippines sorting eggplants, we had a doctorate's degree in education sweeping the floor, we had an accountant stocking avocados and making sure they're in the right place, we had the architect trying to improvise how we can [arrange] the avocado and the eggplant and the bananas,"

she said.

Both Pangelinan and secretary of the co-op's board, Isidoro Cabrera, said that both farmers and consumers will benefit from being a member of the co-op and market.

Pangelinan encourages those interested to buy a share—worth \$50—to become a member.

According to Cabrera, a member can buy up to 10 shares.

"From the producers' side, they're going to make the products available and then from the consumer's side they're going to support this cooperative, and so at the end of the year when we build enough equity, we can give a patronage refund," Pangelinan said.

Cabrera said he expects the market to develop over the next several years with standard prices for its produce set by its board of directors.

On the patronage refund, he said, "Depending how much [a farmer in a year] sold to the market, you get a certain percentage [of its profit in return]."

Cabrera believes that a majority of the farmers on island are, to date, a part of the co-op, and that he expects more to join in the weeks to come.

He emphasized that farmers from Rota and Tinian may also join the co-op.

According to Pangelinan, the co-op has over 50 members, with membership still open to those interested.

Pangelinan described the

connection between farmers and consumers in the community as "critical," as the agriculture on island provides people with resources they need in their daily lives.

"There is just so many potential," she said, on areas the market can continue to expand in.

She described a potential community kitchen in which—for example—bananas that are overripe and otherwise wasted are used to make donuts to sell to customers.

She said that the co-op's daily responsibilities will be to operate the market with integrity just like any other business that wants to succeed.

However, unlike some business she believes the farmer's market has a different objective.

"[Our objective] is that everyone has a sense of belonging and ownership in the busi-



DENNIS B. CHAN

Local produce for sale at the Garapan Public Market. Farmers are encouraged to bring fruits and vegetables daily between 8am and 12 noon.



DENNIS B. CHAN

Ben Borja, a retired agriculturalist, poses with bananas he sells through the Garapan Public Market.



DENNIS B. CHAN

Fresh squash for sale at Garapan Public Market.



DENNIS B. CHAN

Maria "Frica" Pangelinan, president of the CNMI's Farmer Cooperative Association, weighs squash for sale at the Garapan Public Market.

ness," she said. In an interview, Perry Tenorio, managing director of the Marianas Visitors Authority, said the venue adds another option to tourists during Thursday night's street market as the market is within walking distance of the Garapan area and provides produce like coconuts and bananas.

"It's a new product that our visitors can enjoy as well," Tenorio said.

As of yesterday, according to Cabrera, the market will be open from 8am to 6pm this week.

He encourages producers to deliver daily as business has been "very good."

Judge orders prompt process of Igitol's withdrawal from DB plan

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood yesterday ordered Settlement Fund Trustee Joyce C.H. Tang and the CNMI government to promptly process the request to withdraw from the Defined Benefits Plan filed by Ivan Igitol, a member of NMI Retirement Fund who was deployed in Afghanistan.

Tydingco-Gatewood said Settlement Fund Trustee Tang recommended that Igitol's letter requesting termination of his membership in the Fund be considered a timely filed request.

The judge said the CNMI government agreed with Tang's report and recommendation.

"The court concurs with the Settlement Fund's analysis as detailed in her report," Tydingco-Gatewood said.

Tang has agreed with Igitol's request that although he was late in filing he should be allowed to terminate his Fund membership as he was then preparing for deployment to Afghanistan with the Guam

Army National Guard in 2013.

Last month, Tydingco-Gatewood ordered the Settlement Fund Trustee to examine Igitol's request and directed Tang

to determine whether there is any basis for it.

In her report, Tang said in her consultation with the CNMI government, it has be-

come apparent that she and the Commonwealth agree that Igitol, given the time frame of his military service, should be allowed to withdraw from the

Defined Benefit Plan.

"We also agreed that this is a matter for the NMI Retirement Fund to resolve," Tang said.

The trustee said she be-

lieves that Igitol should be afforded relief under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, to which the NMI government has agreed.

SPC launches a new web-based map of epidemic alerts in the Pacific

NOUMEA, New Caledonia—The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) has just launched a new web-based interactive map showing current epidemic and emerging disease alerts in the Pacific region.

Deputy Director of SPC's Public Health Division Dr. Yvan Souarès said this new website has been developed to keep health professionals better informed and ensure they are better prepared to help protect the health of Pacific and international communities from epidemic and emerging diseases like chikungunya.

"Since last year the Pacific has suffered from an unprecedented epidemic wave of diseases transmitted by mosquitoes—including dengue, zika, and chikungunya—and it continues," said Dr Souarès.

"Several epidemics of measles are also currently occurring in the region."

This new website provides an overview of the most up to date information on the circulation of epidemic and emerging diseases in the Pacific.

It is located at: www.spc.int/phd/epidemics/

Feedback from Pacific health professionals in the region, who saw the first prototype of this new website, has been very positive. Their comments indicated that they see it as a very useful tool for their daily practice of public health surveillance, preparedness and response to epidemics.

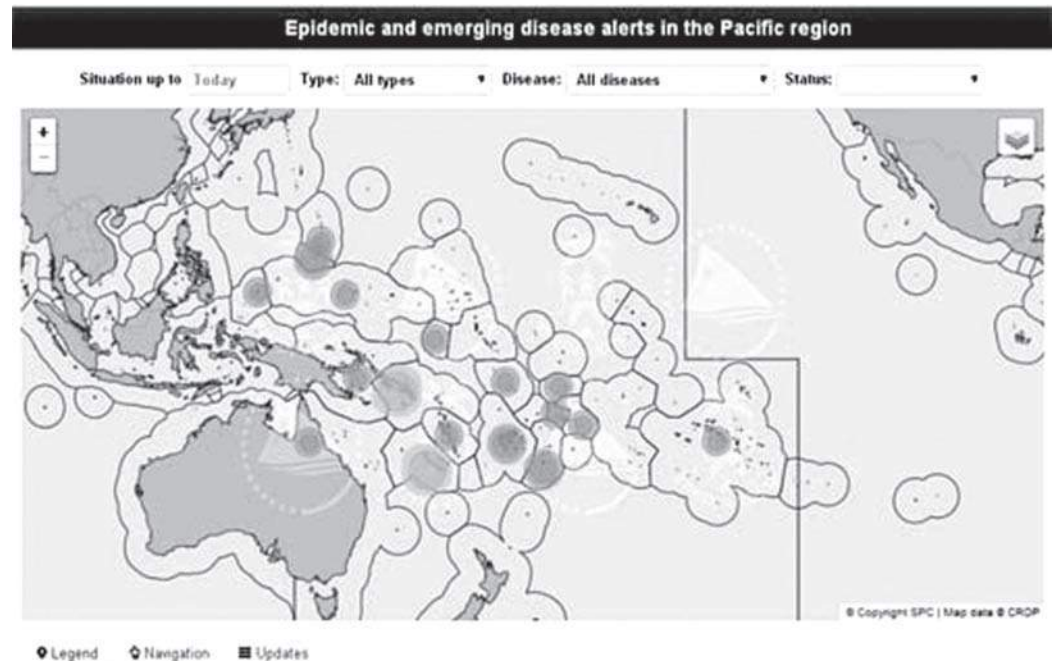
The web interface allows users to visualise the epidemics and alerts in different ways, i.e. by country, disease, type of transmission and over recent time.

Future developments will provide more descriptive and technical information on actual situations, and ultimately on

historical data.

For further information, please contact Christelle Lepers, Surveillance Information

and Communication Officer in SPC's Public Health Division – Email: christelle@spc.int – Tel. (687) 26 01 81. **(SPC)**



The interactive web-based interactive map shows current epidemic and emerging disease alerts in the Pacific region as of today.

Energy Division distributing CFLs to Rota residents

The CNMI DPW/Energy Division is pleased to announce the distribution of the Residential Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) Event under the Energy, Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) to provide individuals residing on Rota the opportunity to receive free energy-efficient ENERGY STAR® rated CFLs to help reduce their home's energy consumption and promoting energy efficiency and conservation within the CNMI.

The DPW/Energy Division EECBG staff will be distribut-

ing 16 energy-efficient ENERGY STAR Rated CFLs to residential consumers. The EVENT will be available to distribute CFLs on a first-come, first-served basis and while supplies last. Distribution schedule and location are as follows:

Location: Rota Mayor's Office

Antonio Camacho Atalig Memorial Library Building, Tatachog

Dates: Aug. 27, 28, and 29th, 2014

Time: 8:30am-11:30am and 1pm-4:30pm

In order to receive the CFLs, residential consumers must present a valid identification card with photo and a copy of their most recent CUC utility bill with their name, account number, and electric consumption on the billing.

Businesses are not eligible to participate in the event.

For more information or questions regarding the event, call the DPW Energy Division's EECBG Office at (670) 664-4487/89/90 and ask for Maggie Untalan or Shawn Pangelinan. **(PR)**

WWII live ordnance at Marpi Blow Pit on Aug. 29

The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Office of the Governor with the Department of Public Safety, in conjunction with U.S. Naval Forces Marianas (N3) Guam, Gov. Eloy S. Inos, would like to inform the general public that the Guam EOD DET will be conducting WWII live Ordinance at

OVR counselor on Tinian Aug. 26-27

This is to inform the general public that Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) counselor Rose Ichiuo will be on Tinian from Aug. 26 to 27, 2014, at the Tinian Department of Labor (DOL) office. If you know anyone who has a disability resulting in substantial impediments to employment, wants to work, and is interested in receiving VR services, please contact OVR at 322-6537/38 or Anthony Barcinas of Tinian DOL at 433-3700. **(PR)**

Saipan Marpi Blow Pit. The schedule dates and time are as followed:

■ Aug. 29, 2014

■ 1pm-3pm

■ Saipan Blow Pit

■ Lat: 15 deg. 16min.

0.0865sec. North

■ Long: 145deg. 49min.

0.3313sec. East

The general location of this activity will be at Marpi Blow Pit within 3,300 feet radius on all quadrants to 3,300 feet above sea level.

Due to the danger imposed by this activity Gov. Eloy S. Inos, is strongly advising the general

public especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators to stay away from this area during the time and dates indicated.

The cooperation and understanding of the general public is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the CNMI Emergency Operation Center-Dispatch Center at telephone number (670)237-8000, VHF MARINE CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0 or dial CNMI 211 for this advisory. **(PR)**

NMHC sets anniversary/housing expo on Friday

The community is invited to join Northern Marianas Housing Corp.'s celebration of its 20th anniversary since its establishment as a public housing corporation for the CNMI.

In conjunction, NMHC will be hosting a housing exposition or expo. Important key players, organizations, gov-

ernment agencies, and companies that promote the Commonwealth's housing industry will be participating for this community event on Friday, Aug. 22, 2014 at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center from 9am to 6pm. For inquiries, call NMHC at 234-6866. **(PR)**

Saipan Tribune Make it your *DAILY* habit.



COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 235-7147
Email: administration@cda.gov.mp • Website: www.cda.gov.mp



NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

August 1st, 2014

Notice is hereby given, that pursuant to **loan documents**, the Commonwealth Development Authority ("CDA") shall auction off to the highest bidder the following items:



Truck:
Make: Chevy
Year: 1981
Model: Box Truck 6 cylinder



Generator:
Make: Denyo
Model: 4TN-82TL
Capacity: 20KVA/ 220 Volts
Serial: 285-0229
Engine Model: Yanmar Engine #4tn82TL
Trailer Included

The auction shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. The items are being sold **"AS IS"** and **"WHERE IS"**;
2. The items are being sold **WITHOUT WARRANTY** of any type;
3. The public auction will be held at the **CDA Building, 1st floor Conference room, Oleai, Saipan on Friday, August 29, 2014, at 2:00pm.**
4. Terms of the sale are cash, certified check or credit card (MC and Visa only); and
5. CDA reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to withdraw this notice and postpone the sale from time to time.

CDA is attempting to collect a debt and any payments received will be used for that purpose. Any interested party or person may contact Mr. Aaron Wood, Loan Officer, CDA at 234-6245 ext. 308 for further information or to inspect the items. Failure to inspect the property will not constitute grounds for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer. All sales are final.

Dated this 1st day of August, 2014.

Commonwealth Development Authority
/s/ Manuel A. Sablan
Executive Director

NMC offers Wood Working Workshop

As part of its Workforce Development and Apprenticeship Program, the Northern Marianas College Community Development Institute (CDI) is offering a Hands On Training (HOT) Wood Working Workshop. This

workshop is designed to provide students hands-on experience and knowledge of fundamental construction principles.

The workshop will enable students to demonstrate basic safety practices and appropriate

communication pertaining to carpentry, recognize and be able to use construction tools, understand basic rules of construction safety; apply safety skills when using hand and power tools; estimate carpentry projects (re-

quired materials and cut list for small projects); demonstrate the ability to work on and complete small carpentry projects; solve mathematical problems related to carpentry; and exhibit good work ethics.

All instruction will be provided at the Northern Marianas College campus in As-Terlaje.

The workshop is for community members who are US citizens, and or green card holders; space in the class is limited so enrollment will be on a first come-first served basis.

To sign up for the workshop, please download a registration form at marianas.edu, contact Eileen Babauta by calling 237-6764, email wdp@marianas.edu or visit the CDI office in NMC's Building P.

The deadline to register is Friday, Aug. 22, 2014 for Saipan, Aug. 28, 2014 for Tinian, and

Sept. 4, 2014 for Rota.

"The hands-on workshop offers students a great opportunity to develop their carpentry and construction skills," said NMC Dean of Administration and Resource Development David Attao. "We hope that eligible community members take advantage of the HOT Workshop and share the information with their friends and family who may benefit from it."

The Hands On Training (HOT) workshops are part of the Northern Marianas College's comprehensive efforts to fill workforce needs. (NMC)

Naval Hospital Guam to conduct mass casualty drill on Aug. 28

AGANA HEIGHTS, Guam—U.S. Naval Base Guam will conduct Exercise Citadel Pacific 2014 (CP 14) from Aug. 25 to 29. U.S. Naval Hospital Guam will participate in this exercise on Aug. 28 during from 1pm to 4:30pm.

During the exercise the hospital will conduct a Mass Casualty

(MASCAL) drill. There will be no acute appointments or elective surgeries available. The hospital's Emergency Department will be open and available to accept emergent cases.

There will also be increased patrols on and around the base as a result of this planned exercise throughout the week. Mea-

sures have been taken to minimize disruptions to normal base operations, but there may be times when the exercise causes increased traffic around bases or delays in base access to include access to the hospital.

Patients that may be in surrounding areas of the drill within the hospital should not be alarmed

if they see and hear increased activity associated with the exercise.

CP 14 is an annual exercise designed to enhance the training and readiness of Navy security forces to respond to threats to the installation and units. It is not a response to any specific threat, but is a regularly scheduled exercise. (PR)



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Saipan SDA School open house on Aug. 21

The Saipan Seventh Day Adventist School will hold its open house today, Aug. 21, from 6:30pm to 8pm at Classroom 11. Everyone is invited and new enrollment is welcome. (PR)

DPS to close Marpi this Friday

The Department of Public Safety will block off the northern part of the island, Marpi, on Friday, Aug. 29, from 12 noon to 3pm.

The purpose of this blockage is to dispose of the significant collection of unexploded ordinance that has been collected by the Department of Public Safety Explosive Response Team.

All visitors to these popular areas of the island are requested to make arrangements to visit either in the morning before the 12 noon deadline or after the operation has completed at 3pm.

Anyone with questions may contact the Explosives Response Team operational supervisor, Sgt. Anthony I. Macaranas, at 483-5818. (DPS)

SSHS orientation week

Schedule:

■ Monday (8/25)—Freshmen & New Student with Parents 9-10:30am

■ Tuesday (8/26)—Sophomore with Parents 9-10:30am

■ Wednesday (8/27)—Juniors with Parents 9-10:30am

■ Thursday (8/28)—Seniors with Parents 9-10:30am

■ Friday (8/29)—Make Up Orientation for those that missed their scheduled dates with Parents 9-am10:30am

BECQ invites everyone to a free Snorkels event

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, in partnership with Let's Move Marianas! and Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, would like to invite the community to its second free CNMI Snorkels event this Saturday, Aug. 23, 2014 at 9am in Susupe, next to Naked Fish.

Come out and hop in the ocean with one of our marine biologists to learn more about our underwater world —and as an extra bonus get a work out in for your day! Snorkeling to the tanks and back will be from 9am to 11am.

Are you under the age of 18? If so, please make sure to bring a parent/guardian with you so they can sign a waiver for you.

Don't have snorkeling gear? Not a problem! If you don't have your own gear, we have gear for you!

As an added bonus, Naked Fish will give a 15 percent discount on special lunch items to all participants!

So mark your calendars and join us this Saturday for a day of fun and adventure into our underwater world.

For more information, contact Avra Heller at avrahellerdeq@gmail.com or 664-8500. (PR)

MHS student orientations set

Marianas High School will be having the orientation for school year 2014-2015 as follow:

■ Aug. 22: Incoming Sophomores and Juniors, 9:30am-11am, School Gym

■ Aug. 22: Incoming Seniors, 1pm-2:30pm, School Gym

■ Aug. 26: Incoming Freshmen, 9:30am-11:30am, School Gym

Returning students are re-

quired to bring an updated Health Certificate and Student Insurance. Parents are highly encouraged to participate. (MHS)

OVR counselor on Rota

This is to inform the public that a vocational rehabilitation counselor will be on Rota from Aug. 20 to 21 at the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Receiving Center in Songsong Village. If you know anyone who has a disability, wants to work, and is interested in receiving VR services, contact the OVR Staff at 322-6537/38, or Elizabeth Kani at 532-9351/4 or 286-2013. (OVR)

New Election Commission phone numbers

This is to inform all department and agencies of the CNMI government that the telephone numbers for the Commonwealth Election Commission has changed, effective Monday, August 11, 2014. The new numbers are 235-8683, 235-8680 and 664-8682. The fax number is 664-8689 remain the same. (PR)

turtle meat

Authorities arrested during separate operations on Monday a man for alleged possession of 8.8 kilos of turtle meat and his brother and another man for possession of methamphetamine or "ice."

Defendants Martin E. Reyes, 51, Antonio E. Reyes, 43, and Dusty Nisarafach, 45, were taken to Superior Court yesterday for bail hearing.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed a \$10,000 cash bail for Martin Reyes who is facing charges of two counts of possession of an endangered species.

Camacho imposed a \$5,000 cash bail each for Antonio Reyes and Nisarafach, who both are being held for illegal possession of controlled substance.

Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer appeared as counsel for Martin Reyes and Nisarafach. Attorney Michael

Ernest, on behalf of attorney Colin Thompson, served as counsel for Antonio Reyes. Chief prosecutor Peter Prestley represented the CNMI government.

Camacho ordered Martin Reyes to cooperate with the Office of Adult Probation to determine if he is eligible for court-appointed counsel.

NMC having difficulty recruiting nursing instructors

Northern Marianas College president Sharon Y. Hart said the institution is having a hard time recruiting qualified instructors for its nursing program. She also describes the position as the most difficult to fill in the organization.

In fact, Hart said NMC currently only has one nursing instructor and that it needs to recruit two other faculty members for the new semester.

Hart disclosed that despite aggressive efforts to recruit candidates from private and public clinics, no commitment has been secured yet by the college.

The president cited two factors in failing to get the needed nursing faculty onboard: lack of qualified nursing instructors on island and the issue of meager salary for the position.

However, the president said that it is not only in the CNMI that faculty for the nursing program is hard to fill, but across America. Hart said a nursing student who completed a two-year degree is earning as much as \$40,000. "How much more for a nursing faculty who has a master's degree?" she asked.

"You can probably understand why this is so difficult for us. In many colleges, literally, they are paying the nursing faculty a lot more than other faculty members," she said during Friday's board meeting.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

August 21, 2012

Online petition asks Legislature to impeach Fitial

An online petition launched yesterday asks the Legislature to impeach Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, whose secretive signing of a sole-source 25-year power purchase agreement with a mysterious firm that is guaranteed to receive at least \$190.8 million is now being added to an impeachment resolution that the House minority bloc has been working on for months.

Within hours, some 100 individuals responded to the online petition launched by a concerned citizen, Ed Propst.

The online petition is addressed to the Legislature which, according to the NMI Constitution, may impeach the governor for "treason, commission of a felony, corruption, or neglect of duty."

The petition is available at <http://www.change.org/petitions/the-cnmi-legislature-impeach-cnmi-governor-benigno-fitial>.

Propst said there may be a number of people who are too afraid to lose their jobs, so they may not sign the petition.

\$3.2M in child tax credit checks

Parents could expect to receive their child tax credit checks on or before Tuesday next week following the Department of

Finance's announcement that it received \$3.2 million in child tax credits yesterday.

Finance said it has begun processing checks for those individuals whose credits have been cleared by the Internal Revenue Service.

Acting governor Eloy S. Inos, in a statement, said the release of child tax credit checks is timely as private schools have recently opened for the new school year and the Public School System will begin sessions in early September.

"These additional funds for families will be helpful so that school children may be well equipped with school supplies, clothing, shoes, and other needed items as they start a new academic year," said Inos, who oversees government finances and a former Finance secretary.

Man arrested for possessing 8.8 kilos of

Challenge to CHC land lease plan back in court

Representative Mariano Taitano (IR-Saipan)'s challenge to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s plans for the vacant property north of the hospital is heading back to court after a reported transfer of the property from CHC back to its original owner, the Department of Public Lands, failed to materialize.

Taitano brought a taxpayer action in Superior Court last year challenging DPL's ini-

tial transfer of the property to CHC, and CHC's plan to lease part of the property to a Guam landscaping company for the construction of a new federal courthouse.

At a scheduled hearing in November of last year, however, CHC advised the court that the property would be transferred from CHC back to the DPL. It was also reported in the press that a consensus had been reached among CHC, DPL,

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and representatives of the Marianas Public Land Trust that the land would be deeded back to the government. Taitano's action was put on hold so that the issues raised in his case could be re-evaluated after the transfer.

It has emerged, however, that the planned re-transfer never actually took place, and that the property has remained in the possession of CHC. Taitano has therefore now asked the court

to re-activate the case, and the court has set a new hearing on pending motions for Sept. 30.

Taitano initially filed the case as a CNMI taxpayer, under the section of the CNMI Constitution that permits a taxpayer to sue a government agency for a breach of its fiduciary duties to the people. He charged both the Department of Public Lands and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. with breaching their duties.

CHC, he contends, should not have granted an option to lease out the property without a public solicitation, an appraisal of the value of the property, and clear terms as to the size and location of the portion of the property subject to the lease, and the price to be paid for it. Instead, CHC just granted Landscape Management Systems, Inc., an option to lease part of the property in the event it is awarded the federal courthouse contract,

without specifying any of those terms.

Furthermore, Taitano argues, DPL should not have transferred the property to CHC in the first place, since CHC has no experience or expertise in leasing out land for development.

"This is a valuable piece of land at a prime location," said Taitano, "and there is not so much of that to go around. We need to be careful what we do with it." (PR)

Koconut-Ville offers unique cultural experience to tourists



Koconut-Ville Farm offers tourists a better appreciation of local culture by way of cultural farm living.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The vacation experience gained on our island by young travelers can create a lasting impression on them. These are memories they will cherish forever and hopefully the islands' fledgling tourism industry can build on that by way of not only repeat visitors, but favorable word of mouth from the travelers.

Discover Saipan Tour owner Monique Kramer said it is important that we all do our part to promote our island as a competing destination.

To this end, the company has decided to partner with a local business specifically to enhance the vacation experience of tourists to the islands.

The new partner company, Koconut-Ville Farm, has been in operation for at least a year now.

Owners Tony Camacho and Rose Pangelinan said that when they started farming it was never their intension to establish a business that would cater to tourists.

However, after tourists almost daily would stop by and ask for directions to Old Man by the Sea and then request to buy fresh coconuts, Camacho

saw a great business opportunity and the rest is history.

As Koconut-Ville now anticipates growth and part of the program it has offered to Discover Saipan Tour is to give tourists a better appreciation of local culture by way of cultural farm living.

"We tour the children on the farm and had them view and pet some of the local farm animals such as chickens, ducks, land turtle, deer, pigeon, goat, monitor lizard, etc. After the walk-around, a few local artists await the attention of the children to start a cooking and weaving session. The artist will show them how to make coconut candy and weave baskets, hats, bags, and decorative ornaments utilizing coconut leaves. Also, included are refreshments of fresh coconut juice and a variety of local fruits," said Camacho.

Camacho encourages other tour companies to be more involved in providing tourists with better cultural experiences.

"We had inquired with some tour companies and some sur-

veys showed that most of the disappointment our guests have is the lack of cultural interaction. Koconut-Ville would like to offer better experience for our guests and provide similar services for groups that are willing to at least spend more than an hour for the experience."

He said there are a number of jungle tour groups with prepaid packages operating locally, but the downfall of these are majority of the tours are done by a third party company that takes tourists around and are hustled to meet the 2-3 hour tour schedule before they have to pick up another group.

"I've seen how it's done and with the travel time to different destinations, it only allows 10-15 minutes per location. Many of our guests feel rushed by this and most of them don't get what they should."

Camacho believes what Koconut-Ville offers is a better alternative.

"We encourage all tour agents/operators to capitalize on this program. It could also reduce their cost by limiting the number of destination stops

and bring them to Koconut-Ville for a more meaningful experience. Our program will provide at least a minimum of 10 or more people per session which will include the viewing of farm animals and photo opportunities, an hour or more on how to utilize coconut in a variety of ways, sampling of food made from coconut such as *apigigi* (a local favorite) coconut candy, *ahu*, and the coconut-weaving session. This is also inclusive of fresh coconut juice and local variety of fruits."

He readily admits that Koconut-Ville is at its infancy business-wise, but the company is

Naval Base Guam to participate in Citadel Pacific

SANTA RITA, Guam—U.S. Naval Base Guam will conduct Exercise Citadel Pacific 2014 (CP 14) Aug. 25-29.

This annual exercise is designed to enhance the training and readiness of Navy security forces to respond to threats to the installation and units. CP 14 is not in response to any specific threat, but is a regularly scheduled exercise.

making daily improvements to enhance the 20,000-square-meter property by planting hundreds of fruit trees. These include soursop, lychee, mango, star fruit, dragon fruit, ponkan, atis, pomegranate, varieties of citrus, pineapple, papayas, bananas, guava, chico, and over 12 varieties of mangoes.

"It is our goal to create a fruit botanical farm and hope that this will become a future destination for our locals and tourists."

For price inquiries, reservation, or for more information on Koconut-Ville, call 285-4208. (PR)

Base employees, patrons, and area residents will see an increased security posture at all Naval Base Guam facilities including short term gate closures Aug. 27.

There will also be increased patrols on and around the base as a result of this planned exercise. Measures have been taken to minimize disruptions to normal base operations, but there

Fraud trial begins for Guam government employee

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Several public works employees in Guam claimed inflated and false overtime as part of a scheme to collect extra pay, federal prosecutors said.

The *Pacific Daily News* reported Tuesday that three territorial government employees entered plea agreements in the case, admitting that they knew about the abuses.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Marivic David said at the opening of a trial for Ariel Evarola that he was also part of the scheme to defraud federal and local governments.

Evarola was coerced into the scheme by his superiors, his defense lawyer said.

Prosecutors allege the abuse happened in 2006 after certain public works employees were allowed to collect overtime for specific projects. The department's former director testified Tuesday that the eligibility was restricted and the overtime paid out of federal reimbursements.

David says employees were told they could collect overtime even for unapproved projects.

Evarola's lawyer, Curtis Van de veld, said there's no evidence that Evarola willfully participated in the scheme and that he was following instructions from his supervisor.

The supervisor, Liberty Perez, pleaded guilty last week to knowing about the scheme without revealing it.

"(Evarola) was required under penalty of insubordination to follow her instructions," Van de veld said.

may be times when the exercise causes increased traffic around bases or delays in base access.

During the exercise, those traveling to and from Navy installations are advised to adjust their schedules to accommodate for any possible delays.

Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see and hear increased activity associated with the exercise. (PR)

Opinion

Hafa Adair!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Ghana not so golden: Government salaries threaten economic growth

Ghana, a country of 27 million on the west coast of Africa, called the Gold Coast when it was a British colony, has been in recent years one of the few stars of African economic and political performance.

Government employee pay, which ate up 70 percent of government revenues in 2012, may now be threatening Ghana's status. Its economy had averaged an impressive 6 percent growth in recent years, achieving 4.4 percent last year.

However, earlier this month Ghana was forced to ask the International Monetary Fund for help. Its currency had fallen a third against the dollar since January. Public debt had soared to over 50 percent of gross domestic product. Its budget deficit hit 10.1 percent last year.

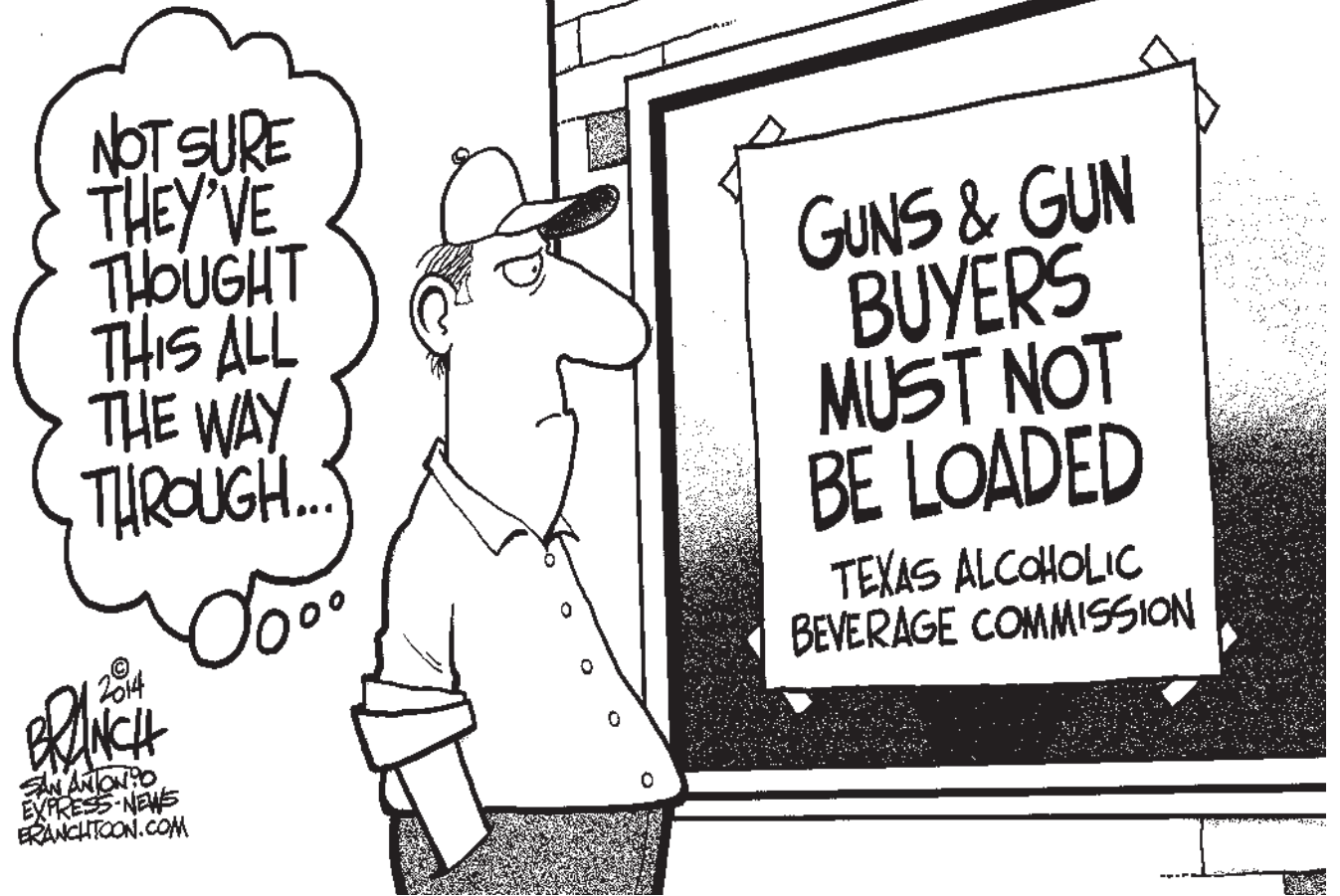
The IMF does not provide free help and will impose conditions that will be painful for Ghanaians, who have been riding high in recent years, including with fuel subsidies and lax tax collection. The IMF's normal prescription for economic healing includes a ceiling on public debt, a civil servant pay freeze, a limit to subsidies, and perhaps privatization of some government services.

All of this will be painful for the government of President John Dramani Mahama, a democratically elected civilian, in office since 2012. Ghana's political situation seems solid now after a stormy period that followed independence in 1957. That period included not only the presidency of Kwame Nkrumah, who ran through the nation's substantial cash reserves, but also a series of military leaders, whose rule ended in 2000.

Ghana's long-term economic prospects remain good, based on its resources, which include gas and oil as well as gold, diamonds and cocoa, but also on its people's general positive, resourceful attitude. In the meantime, it will need to trim its wings modestly to retain its star status.

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PROPOSAL WOULD ALLOW ALCOHOL AT TEXAS GUN SHOWS



Salmon Fishing in Dong Bei

While visiting my second daughter in California last July, she tried to sit me down to watch the movie *Salmon Fishing in Yemen*, a flick starring one of British favorites, Ewan McGregor. We were not successful in the viewing part, but the movie title and story stayed in my mind to checkout later.

Let me get the reader comfortable with Yemen. In biblical Solomon's Queen of Sheba (Sabeans), Eritrea, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia, Yemen folks are in the ball field. Look at the map and the southern tip of the Arabian Peninsula at the juncture of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden (that spills into the Arabian Gulf) across the Horn of Africa, Yemen is on the right (east), while Sabean Africa is on the left (west). Aden was the British Admiralty's old coal port city, and Yemen's capital Sana'a is north close to Saudi Arabia's border.

Imagine Somalia pirates though do not equate the picture with Johnny Depp and Orlando Bloom of the *Pirates of the Caribbean*. The movie's plot of salmon fishing in Yemen is just as preposterous as the *Black Pearl* calling on Port Royal, though the pirates is not inappropriate as Yemen is riddled with many rebel groups. A tad tactile "feel" of the place, Yemen is bisected by 15 degrees latitude, which puts it in the same latitude as Saipan, Guam, and Luzon of the Philippines.

The image of rebels is helpful. In the movie, they oppose Mohammad the dreamer, a Yemeni who did well in England, build a dam to irrigate downstream desert fields and fill it with Salmon to encourage fly-fishing in Yemen. The rebels smell foreign influence in the sport, so they bomb the dam that is an intrusion into tradition with an assassination attempt on the Sheik.

Our allusion to similarities of temperature with our familiar tropic isles is deceptive as Yemen's aridity is many times over, even with its western highlands. Our Yemeni salmon proponent, in damming a river, is actually retaining the humidity upland as streams from the highlands evaporate before making it to shore. The humidity on the highlands adequately supplies water to streams and rivers but retaining it before it hits subterranean aquifers is the terrain's challenge.

Those unfamiliar with salmon, it is a cold water fish prevalent in the temperate zone, the *salmo salar* in the Atlantic, the Pacific salmon that includes the chinook and the coho. Fishermen are familiar with the other salmonids like the trout and the char. Google the subject if interested.

Those acquainted with the Cagayan River of northern Luzon knows of the specie called *Ludong* that used to be common in the river of my youth but has been overfished through the years, also succumbing to the chemical effluents of the Green Revolution that decimated native species of marine life. Anyway, the endangered

By **JAIME VERGARA**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



specie *Ludong* spawns on fresh water where it was born before swimming to the ocean's seawater, and returns upriver to die in the fresh water, akin to the salmon.

OK, so we got Yemen and the salmon pat; as to the movie, we will skip the country-rebel relationship in Yemen's politics, and the UK's PR shenanigans in the Middle East, or the characters' romance that ends in a happy ending. The movie is about injecting something new into what is ordinary and natural by transforming the environment. The salmon is unnatural to the Yemen terrain but the building of the dam allows for a cold fresh body of water that could possibly sustain a life from elsewhere into a new environment.

The Sheik plays the visionary entrepreneur, a biologist reluctantly joins the project since it defies reason, an opportunistic UK official sees in the project a political opening, and a heart-broken assistant whose beau went missing in a war zone, all suspend the limited wisdom of science to allow hope to inject itself into the process, both in the salmon enterprise as well as in their individual lives. The surprise comes in the salmon's ability to defy expectations and move upstream after rebels bombed the dam hoping the salmon flow downstream to die. The salmon decided to swim their own destiny!

Dong Bei salmon fishing is no problem since the Primorsky Krai of far eastern Russia (Maritime Province where Vladivostok is located) has salmon from the Sea of Japan wade upstream the Amur River bordering Russia and China's Manchuria. The real salmon fishing is about an old life from another dreaming a new life by altering environment. In our case, it is this lao ye ye (old man) who is doing just that!

I watch from my solarium the neighborhood street sweeper who keeps our one-block commons tidy and relatively clean the place just because one day, this dude brought out a trash picker and started picking up the trash on the street. Didn't do anything strenuous but he saw a salmon swimming upstream, and decided to follow. I noticed a grandma doing the same on the other end of the commons.

The salmon in the movie survived. In Dong Bei, I will, too. How are the salmon in Saipan doing?

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Asun foggun guafe

Gi kusan i lanchu, sige che' luhu manunu fina' katne yan guihan. Era deste lataftaf ha ha' me tininuña gi hilu' foggun antes de u pega papa'. I asun kusan sanhiyoñg mina' mañge' ayu na finatogh. Ayu na modun foggun 'nai umeyag-yu' muna' apan hinegsa' antes. Man-eyag lokue' mañeluhu man-na' lagu guihe na foggun. Poresu na ti mapot para hame usun foggun hayu.

Ha fana' gue ham i amku' taimanu man-ha' men katne yan guihan ginen asun i feggun. Dispues, entre ma-aflitu' sino matunu para totchen familia. Kontodu mamada' titiyas gi kemat in' tiñgu'. Deste chatagmag esta kasse lemlem tautau man-gaige ham gi me' nan i feggun.

Mafattu mahalañghu 'an hu ñgiñge' maseha asun sineñgen hagu. Enseñdas ha koneyu' tatte gi hagas kusan mame gi Lali Fo'. Magradua-yu' Hopwood sin foggun ma-atileg (electric stove). Kanaha' todun man-acha-amkohu chumage tesnan satten ginen feggun guafe.

Antes de bai'n diñgu i gualu' debi bai'n fan ñgayu para i kusan i gima'. Kasse i diariu na usun foggun guafe mina' na' mahalañg i asu pot petmanente na patte gi leblon pinebble yan hinimidde na tinituhon antes gi todun familia.

Eskuelan Hurau

Hu e'ekuñgog konbetsasion pot eskuelan liñguahen Chamorro (Hurau) giya Guam. Entre na' magof yan na' triste i primera mission ayu na eskuela. Ha mirese abundancia na onru pot guiya tumutuhon pumañgon i natibu pot liñguahiña yan kutturahiña.

Mas buena i pinetsigen inatitan usun liñguahen yangin man-masoyu' i mañaina siha na u usa finu' Chamorro gi halom guma'. Estague' na pisu 'nai mas aseguru matanom gi famaguon natibu i hila' nanan niha. Haf' sustansian hila' nana-ta? Kau guaha i palao' an na malefa ni patgon gi halom tiyaña?

Este na karera siempre adumididi' ta pega tatte gi famaguon natibu kabales espiritu niha kumu Chamorro. Ni unu u faliñgu sa' kabales ha tuñgu' sustansian tinatena kuttura yan tradision.

Ekonomian Globus

Sige un' sabiun bisinu umesalau na "globus" este i industrian casino. Gi mismu tiempu ni batkon aire appenanas guine. Haf' taimanu ha adelantague' este na industria sin batkon aire ni para u kone' halom bisita siha ginen i oriya?

Mientras tantos, duru iya Taiwan, South Korea, Japon yan otu siha nasion gi oriya mapoñga adelanton fangualu' an yan tasi. Miyon pot miyon pesos gi sakan mana' hahalom ginen produktun este na patte gi ekonomian niha. Guine, man-tinane' hit yan casino kulan mohon satbadot todus.

Lau repara sa' kada ta sufa' i mama'te ya lotgun i ekonomia gi mutuñg sadog diskuidu ta bira hit tatte gi gualu' yan tasi. Hafa mohon ya tana' lametgot este na patte gi aseguru na ekonomian tanu'?

Animosu man-mananom yan man-peska nasion siha gi oriya-ta. Mas adelantau eknomian niha ginen rikesan tanu' niha mismu. Tat-nai hu huñgog man-esalau pot inestablesen mas casino. Marianas ha' 'nai masusesede pinetfihan saludu gi tihonñg otu! Globus pat lobus?

Pot abugau

Ka hulu' i abugau ya ha espliika gi testigu na todun inepeña debi "a'gañg". Konfotme i testigu. Finaisen, "Siña un' sañgane i kotte haye na'anmu?"

Ineppe enseñdas, "A'gañg!" Magpu' i kotte.

■ ■ ■

Estaba dos lastron reda gi hilu' chalan. Unu anaku' i otu kadada'. Mafaisen i patgon hafa i draiba ha ke eskapaye. Ilegña, "I anaku pot no u chiget i galagu. Pa'gu i kadada' ha sufa' ya ha senu' un abugau". Dios mihu!

■ ■ ■

Pot sessu i pagyu ha disgrana fanliheñg familia ni man-mahatsa dispues de gera mina mangai gima' hit pa'gu padet. Magahet na fitme lau maie na guma piot ya ti mapegaye air-condition. Kasse guiya este i presiun modetno na Marianas. A' Saina!

■ ■ ■

Kumu mohon man-praktiku hit ileghu na megai mañgonfotme

By **JOHN DELROSARIO**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



ni fresku na gima' siguale. Hatsaye fitme na fan-atukan pagyu sa' areglau nesessidat familia. Ti tafa ñiche' pot guaguan kandet yan hanom piot ya guaha kemon sanhiyuñg.

■ ■ ■

Hafana'gue-yu' un' amku tumaitai finatton mattiempon fañuchanan. Hu prueba na magahet ayu na seña. Kontodu tinaitai pañgañg mañglu' 'an chatagmag pot para bai detetmina kau gofha' an pat maie yan fote na humidu mamamaila'. I mapagahes lokue' gi lemlem tautau klaru na seña 'an para maie finatton sigiente dia.

■ ■ ■

Uniku lau malagredesiya na patgon ma'agañg para u dinespide as tataña. Finanue' punta pot punta hafa siha iyoña kontodu i hospitat 'nai gaigegue'. Nina'e siete na leblon bañku miyon pot miyon kada unu. Kadu' muma'ase' i patgon ya hafaisen si tataña haf' siña ha chogue kumu uttimu na diniseha. Ilegña i amku', "Na' suha ad-eñgmgi gi hos oxygen sa' un' punu' hit". Dios mihu!

■ ■ ■

Ilegña un' inutet na amiguhu ni achamko'hu: "Nai hoben hit tat ti siña. Pa'gu sa' amku hit todun lokue' ti siña". Ai na grasia 'nai ha sasañgan na kontodu buteyan sitbesa ha ñgañgas antes. 'Nai hu gef atan pachotña enteru dofi'. Dios mihu!

■ ■ ■

'Nai kasse hokog esta para bai'n hapla, ha atanyu' ya ilegña, "Primu, taya' mas chatpagu ke chatpagu na palao' an ni fuma'gue' boninita". Esta ha mente na ni kuantu na beni' yan potbus kuttikura 'an chatpagu pues chachatpagu esta' i seputtura. Dios tiampare!

Palestinians seeking International Criminal Court Investigation

Seventy-five-year-old George Ayyad stands calmly near his 31-year-old son, Jeries, who has been in a coma in the intensive care unit of St. Joseph Hospital in Jerusalem for two weeks. The elder Ayyad, who had the duty of ringing the church bells at the Orthodox Church in Gaza city, has lost his wife, Jalila, and is waiting to find out the fate of his son, whose legs were amputated.

The Ayyad home, not far from the church, received two Israeli rockets Saturday, July 26. The first was a small rocket that is supposed to alert residents that their home will soon receive a much bigger rocket. With loud noise all around and his hearing in decline, George didn't realize that his house was targeted for this alert.

He had gone up to the roof to inspect the source of a water leak caused by the first rocket. When he realized what happened, he apparently screamed to his family to get out of the house. Jalila and Jeries were in the kitchen when the second rocket brought down the single-story home. Neighbors say they heard Jeries

attempt to get his mother out, saying to her, "Try, try, we are almost out," but it was too late to help her. Jeries was critically injured. George, who was still on the roof when the rocket came from the side, literally came down on top of his own destroyed house and suffered chest and face injuries.

The Ayyads' case is the kind that investigators of war crimes look for. The fact that the family's house was hit first by a small warning rocket means that the Israelis specifically targeted this particular home and that it wasn't a mistaken hit. And the fact that this was an

older Christian family that has no connection to Hamas or Islamic Jihad removes the likelihood that any in the household were combatants. Israel's "knock on the roof" warning system will have little justification in any international criminal court given that is was no use to an older couple who had difficulty moving around.

The idea of the knock on the roof has bewildered many. If the house contains combatants, why alert them? If the Israelis know that a house does not house combatants, then what is the purpose of destroying it other than a collective punishment aimed to terrorize the community in order to collectively pressure the combatants?

If the events in Gaza do cause a serious inspection of war crimes the Israeli official, the pilot carrying out the shelling and the military and political officers ordering the hit of the Ayyad home all could face prosecution for war crimes.

Legal experts say that there are three ways that the International Criminal Court (ICC) can initiate proceedings: The prosecutor of the ICC can initiate investigations if he or she is convinced that crimes of war occurred; the

United Nations Security Council can demand investigations under Chapter Seven of the UN Charter; or the government of a member state can refer the case to the prosecutor.

Palestine, which became a non-member observer state, can initiate procedures if it becomes a party to the 1998 Rome Statute of the ICC. Palestinian leaders made a unified decision to move in that direction, but the process has proved to be very time consuming. What seems to be holding the effort back has been the leaders' desire to obtain the approval of all Palestinian factions. Some, such

Legal experts say that there are three ways that the International Criminal Court (ICC) can initiate proceedings: The prosecutor of the ICC can initiate investigations if he or she is convinced that crimes of war occurred; the United Nations Security Council can demand investigations under Chapter Seven of the UN Charter; or the government of a member state can refer the case to the prosecutor.

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By **DAOUD KUTTAB**

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Daoud Kuttat is an award-winning Palestinian journalist and former Ferris Professor of Journalism at Princeton University.



as Hamas or Islamic Jihad, might find themselves accused of war crimes, and therefore it is doubtful they will agree to join.

The imprecise nature of the unsophisticated Palestinian rockets could cause the Palestinian groups to be questioned by war crime investigators, although some international legal experts any major investigation is unlikely. The extremely low number of Israeli deaths and injuries could save Hamas from accusations since their attacks will be considered "inchoate" acts. Hamas rockets have no warheads, and they don't appear to be launched with the planned aim of causing major damage. Palestinians furthermore argue that armed resistance is guaranteed in international law. Fewer than four Israelis were killed directly as a result of the Palestinian rockets. The Iron Dome defense system is said to have intercepted many of the rockets, but those that were not intercepted mostly fell on unpopulated areas.






The idea of becoming a state party to the Rome Statute of the ICC has strong support among Palestinians. According to one poll, 80 percent of Palestinians approve of joining.

Once all internal obstacles are resolved and Palestine joins the Rome Statute nations, it is expected that its representative will push for an investigation of the Israeli onslaught in Gaza. Innocent Palestinian civilians whose family members were killed and injured, like those of the Ayyad family, will be waiting to see if international justice will indeed be carried out.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly sunny with isolated showers. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲83 ▼77
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲81 ▼79
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲82 ▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼80
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲83 ▼80
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲83 ▼80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼80

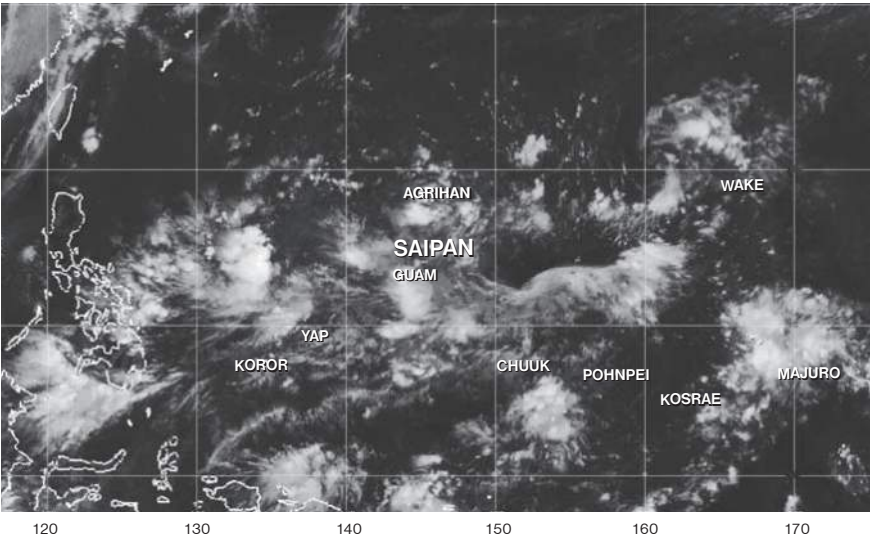
Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲53 ▼44
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲92 ▼72
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼79
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲87 ▼76
London	Mostly Sunny	▲68 ▼55
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲85 ▼65
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲89 ▼76
Melbourne	Sunny	▲66 ▼44
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89 ▼80
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲79 ▼67
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲89 ▼75
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲69 ▼53
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲81 ▼71
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲86 ▼67
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲81 ▼55
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲68 ▼58
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲80 ▼68
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲92 ▼76
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲88 ▼72

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
4:35 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
12:09 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
7:17 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2014

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough extends northeastward from 12N130E to 22N137E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found north of Koror and Yap between 10N and 17N from 130E to 139E. Another surface trough curves eastward from 12N143E through a weak circulation centered at 12N151E to end at 13N162E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are present across the Marianas within 125 miles of a line from 15N141e to 10N149E and also north of Pohnpei between 11N and 16N from 157E to 163E. Low-level convergence is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Koror or south of a line from 2N135E to 2N140E and south of Chuuk between 1N and 6N from 152E to 157E. A surface trough extends northward from 1N169E to 13N167E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen across the Marshall Islands between 5N and 12N from 165E to 175E. An upper-level low is centered northwest of Wake Island at 20N163E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring between 20N and 24N from 162E to 167E. Trade-wind convergence is triggering scattered showers and isolated Thunderstorms from the Northern CNMI to west of Wake Island within 100 miles of a line from 18N145E to 19N163E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:03 AM	6:37 PM
Friday	6:03 AM	6:36 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:36 PM
Sunday	6:04 AM	6:35 PM
Monday	6:04 AM	6:34 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	2:17 AM	3:23 PM
Friday	3:06 AM	4:08 PM
Saturday	3:55 AM	4:51 PM
Sunday	4:43 AM	5:32 PM
Monday	5:31 AM	6:12 PM

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- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 28, 2014

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3	UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:30pm	4:10pm	6, 7 via Rota	UA5039	1:10pm	2:00pm	6, 7
UA5078	3:20pm	4:10pm	1, 5	UA5038	1:10pm	2:50pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5038	3:20pm	4:10pm	2, 4	UA5077	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 5
UA5040	7:05pm	7:55pm	1, 5	UA5041	5:45pm	6:35pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:50pm	11:40pm	1, 5	UA5043	9:30pm	10:20pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:30pm	3:05pm	6, 7	UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5039	3:35pm	4:10pm	6, 7	UA5038	2:15pm	2:50pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)				PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	11:15pm	2, 4, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:30am	3:00pm	3, 5, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 6	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily	OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
MU7076	4:15am	6:50am	2, 6	MU7075	9:00pm	3:15am+1	1, 5
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764A	3:30am	7:30am	4, 7	MU763A	7:25pm	2:30am+1	3, 6
MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5	MU763	7:55pm	3:00am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL172/288	7:55am	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	3, 6, 7 via GUM	UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
DL287/473	6:05am	9:45pm	1, 4, 5, 6 via NRT	UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM	UA184/5039	10:25pm	2:00pm+1	6 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:30pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA5038/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	2 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA5078/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	5 via GUM	UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:35pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA5078/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM	UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:20pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
				UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5039	11:30pm	2:00pm+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM	D28008	6:05pm	1:20am+1	Aug 5, 10, 14, 19, 24, 28
D2 8009	12:50pm	4:05pm	Aug 5, 10, 14, 19, 24, 28	UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:30pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM	UA180/5039	9:55pm	2:00pm+1	5, 6 via GUM
UA5078/179	3:20pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM	UA180/5038	9:55pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways; ORB: OREN AIR; D2: Dynamic Air

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)



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Elephantiasis: A devastating, but treatable, condition

By **RUSS MASON, M.S.**
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Although elephantiasis is neither a common nor well known medical condition, it is worth bringing to your attention because we have some cases of it in the commonwealth.

Last Tuesday I talked with Paul Gahlinger, M.D., Ph.D., who is medical director of the Kagman Community Health Center and is also the physician affiliated with Marianas Health, LLC, in San Jose.

Elephantiasis is a disease of the lymphatic system. What makes it so devastating, especially in advanced cases, is that the lower legs of the patient become gigantic. Although it is not fatal, it severely impacts the psychology and well-being of the patient.

This disease is common to tropical areas, including islands such as Yap and Chuuk. It is also prevalent in the Philippines, India, and Southeast Asia. Dr. Gahlinger visited several clinics in the Philippines and learned a great deal about treatment options. He may be the only physician in the Commonwealth who, along with the therapists at Marianas Health, can treat those with the disease.

Dr. Gahlinger recognizes that this condition can be treated and that those afflicted no longer need to suffer in silence. He also said that treatment of elephantiasis must follow a specific protocol, and that untrained physicians sometimes do the wrong thing.

Elephantiasis is a severe form of lymphedema. There are many forms of lymphedema but they all share one common trait: a lymphatic obstruction.

“This is a condition of localized fluid retention and tissue swelling caused by a compromised lymphatic system, which normally returns interstitial fluid to the thoracic duct and then the bloodstream. The condition can be inherited, though it is frequently caused by cancer treatments, and by parasitic infections. Though incurable and progressive, a number of treatments can ameliorate symptoms. Also, tissues with lymphedema are at risk of infection.” (Wikipedia)

Dr. Gahlinger said that the most common form of elephantiasis comes from a mosquito bite. The mosquito injects a filarial (parasitic) worm larva into the victim, and it grows and multiplies in the human body. Then, some of the infected blood is re-introduced to another, similar, mosquito, and the cycle renews itself.

This form of lymphedema can be easily treated with antibiotics, and this was the case in the Marianas after WWII, when the U.S. brought in teams of health experts to eradicate a variety of tropical and parasitic diseases.

However, the cases of elephantiasis which exists in the Marianas today may be genetic in origin, notably among the Chamorro or Carolinian people.

Dr. Gahlinger discovered this because he sent blood samples for testing, and they came back negative for the parasite. Dr. Gahlinger also said that if a person has lymphedema for a long time, the blood tests may not reveal it.

Another way to contract lymphedema are via cancer treatments, such as chemo, radiation or surgery—all of which damage the lymphatic vessels. This is especially true for some women with breast cancer, who may suffer horrible edema in their upper arms.

A third cause is genetic: that some individuals are simply genetically predisposed to the disease. Although this may be of academic interest to physicians, it doesn't help the patient with the disease: they've got it and they are suffering.

“It affects their whole life. Not just physically—where they can't walk around—but also psychologically, because of being disfigured. And



the people with the disease here haven't been treated—at all.

“One woman said that she went to eight different doctors and one of them said, ‘We don't know what it is, and we can't do anything about it.’

“That may be why I have only seen four people with it. I know there are others because the nurses have told me about them. So, if I were to guess, I would say that there are another 15 or 20 people on the island with lymphedema.

“These people have basically given up on health care. We don't see them because they have stopped going to the clinic or the hospital, because they think that nothing can be done.

“It's very discouraging for the patient to go to all the trouble of getting to the hospital, wait to see a doctor, and then be told, ‘There is nothing we can do.’”

Even though Dr. Gahlinger had never seen lymphedema-elephantiasis before, he was deeply moved by a young woman who was devastated by it, and he decided to help not only her, but others with this condition. The woman was depressed and didn't even want to leave her home, because she had difficulty moving and felt she was ugly.

Dr. Gahlinger showed me a picture of her leg and it looked like a gnarled tree trunk. You would never know it was the leg of a woman.

One man had such an advanced stage of elephantiasis that he couldn't even get into a car; he had to be brought to the hospital in the back of a pickup truck.

I asked Dr. Gahlinger what a person with this condition can

do. He replied that Marianas Health has physical therapists who have received specific training in this condition. The administrator for Marianas Health, George Cruz, went to the Philippines, recruited specialists and brought them to Saipan to work in his home health clinic.

“It's important for anyone who has the disease, or who knows someone who has it, to get treatment as soon as possible. It's easy to treat at the early stages, but once it has progressed, it becomes more of a challenge.”

The best treatment for elephantiasis, or other forms of lymphedema, is called Complete Decongestive Therapy, which is a physical therapy treatment. This works well, but it takes time.

I asked Dr. Gahlinger what the earliest symptoms were, and he replied, “One leg is beginning to look a little bigger than the other. So in the initial stages, the lymphatic system is still working, but is beginning to lag behind the healthy leg.”

“When we think of a disease—any disease—it's a pathology, an abnormality. What really matters about a disease is the way that it affects the person. So if we can prevent the disease by catching the pathology at an early stage, then we have stopped it from progressing further. That's the goal.

“We have people here with the disease, are not being treated, but we have a new treatment protocol—Complete Decongestive Therapy—which can help them.”

For those who suffer with this terrible condition, Marianas Health can help them. It is located in San Jose, behind the Downtown market (across from the Oleai). Their telephone number is 233-4646.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

40 years of slavery for God's CNMI people

It is common knowledge that the overwhelming majority of people in the CNMI are Christians and it is truly amazing when you think about the 40-year deal for the casino that will make the CNMI people a slave to the Casino on Saipan for the next 40 years. A similar fate was placed upon the Israelites who wandered in the desert for 40 years as punishment. FYI if you don't know the story, after being freed from slavery under Pharaoh the Israelites chose to worship a Golden Cow in the desert while Moses went up the mountain to receive the Ten Commandments from God. Well, the Israelites were forced to wonder in the desert for 40 years for worshiping a statue so what do you think is going to happen to all of us for the next 40 years praising a casino as our only economic salvation?

The governor and his crew have committed all of us without our permission to a 40-year plan that will make the Israelites worshipping a statue in the desert look like a child's birthday party. I don't think retirees or those who voted for the casino bill realize what kind of burden they have placed on the people of the CNMI. Yes we get \$30 million for retirees and \$15 million more each year that will also go to retirees and it will be at least three to four years before we see any additional funding from the casino.

FYI voters, the CNMI is going to spend a lot of millions, more than the \$15 million we will get, to set up the Best Sunshine Resort and Casino operations. We are going to be slaves to Best Sunshine for a long time which is why they can afford to give away ten million for our power bills. The CNMI is going to have to provide power which will require millions of investment from our pockets. The CNMI is going to have to provide water, roads and sewer which will require millions from our pockets. The CNMI is going to have to pay for more DPS operations. The CNMI will pay millions for the Government's staff that will monitor the casino operations to make sure we are not cheated. The CNMI will pay for all the support services to help broken families and gambling addicts and the list goes on but I think readers get the point—we will be slaves to Best Sunshine! To make it worse we still don't have the slightest idea of how much revenues we can even expect after paying for all these improvements and changes.

Not only do we have to set up and pay for the improvements in our infrastructure, DPS operations, government & public support services and accountability staffing for our share, we also have to maintain them for free like slaves for Best Sunshine over

the next 40 years. When you add up all these cost the 15 million a year is not even close to being enough especially when most of the \$15 million will go to the retirees. These examples are exactly why many cities refuse casinos saying casinos are more trouble than they are worth.

God has been giving us clues all along but we keep ignoring them and now the handwriting is on the all literally in the 40 years of slavery we face which is another Biblical story about God warning us. This casino mess is just another example of why I keep telling readers that if we don't learn our lessons from history we are doomed to repeat the same mistakes.

PS: There is never a free lunch and we are going to pay so voters would be wise to look seriously at the alternatives offered by the Democrats and forget the popularity contest between the three GOP candidates. If you truly want to see something new, different, and better happening in the CNMI vote Democrat especially if you want to be happy!

Ambrose M Bennett
Kagman



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Business

Ballmer steps down from Microsoft board

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Former Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer is stepping down from the company's board, closing a chapter on 34 years with the software giant.

Ballmer says he plans to devote more time to his ownership of the Los Angeles Clippers, civic contributions, study and teaching business at Stanford in the fall and USC next spring.

Microsoft Corp. published Ballmer's resignation letter on its website Tuesday along with a response from current CEO Satya Nadella thanking him and wishing him well.

The 58-year-old says he plans to hold on to his Microsoft stock and will continue to offer feedback on products and strategy. With 333.3 million shares worth \$15 billion, Ballmer's 4 percent stake in the company makes him the largest individual shareholder. A few institutional investors hold slightly more.

"I bleed Microsoft—have for 34 years and I always will,"



Ballmer

Ballmer wrote. "I will be proud, and I will benefit through my share ownership. I promise to support and encourage boldness by management in my role as a shareholder in any way I can."

Ballmer stepped down as chief executive in February, and since then Microsoft shares have risen about 24 percent. The stock closed Tuesday up 0.5 percent at \$45.33. He noted his resignation from the board comes as the company prepares for its next shareholder meeting set for sometime this fall.

Nadella thanked Ballmer for his support during the transition period and used the opportunity to reiterate the company's new focus on mobile devices and cloud computing.

"Under your leadership, we created an incredible foundation that we continue to build on—and Microsoft will thrive in the mobile-first, cloud-first world," Nadella said.

Ballmer's departure leaves Microsoft's board with 10 members. It has no immediate plans to replace him. The company, which is based in Redmond, Washington, adds a new board member about once every year or so. The most recent addition was John Stanton, chairman of wireless technology investment fund Trilogy Equity Partners, in July.

Robert Breza, an analyst with Sterne Agee & Leach, said Ballmer still lives in the Seattle area and will no doubt be accessible if needed.

"Steve will still be relevant for the next two years if someone asks him a question," Breza said. "It gives them the chance to remake the board. At the end of the day it's a good thing."

New Mexico chile gets certified—product safeguards

BERNALILLO, N.M. (AP)—Idaho has its potatoes. Florida has its fresh fruits and juices. Vidalia is the name synonymous with the nation's most famous sweet onion.

Now New Mexico has its own trademark and certification program to protect the reputation and integrity of its signature crop: chile.

Gov. Susana Martinez, members of the New Mexico Chile Association and other officials unveiled the program before a packed room of chile aficionados gathered Tuesday at The Range Cafe, the first restaurant to sign up.

Martinez described chile as a way of life in New Mexico. Aside from being a part of breakfast, lunch and dinner, the chile industry contributes more

than \$460 million every year to the state's economy and employs about 4,000 workers.

The governor said consumers—whether in New Mexico or New York City—shouldn't have to wonder whether they're getting real New Mexico-grown chile.

"Whether you prefer red, green or Christmas (a mix of both), you want to know that your chile was grown in New Mexico by farmers with generations of experience, in rich soil and the kind of intense sunlight that makes this flavorful food," she said.

The program builds upon on existing law that makes it illegal to advertise any product as New Mexico chile unless it's actually grown in the state. An independent auditor will certify whether restaurants, salsa

makers and others in the hot pepper business are using New Mexico-grown chile before allowing them to post the certified logo on their labels and at their front doors.

The chile association also is developing a website where consumers will be able to find vendors who sell the real deal.

State agriculture officials said they have evidence from across the country that unscrupulous vendors have tried to pass off chile as New Mexican despite packaging that shows it comes from another country.

New Mexico's chile experts contend there's no mistaking the hot peppers grown here. Once a person tastes them or smells them roasting at farmers markets and grocery stores, the craving begins, they say.

based in Oak Brook, Illinois, has highlighted coffee as a key growth opportunity, with CEO Don Thompson saying it can be a way to get customers into its more than 14,000 U.S. restaurants. The chain has redesigned its coffee cups to have a more appealing look that people would want to carry around. And it's trying to make a bigger push into more profitable coffee drinks, such as flavored lattes, rather than just drip coffee.

Macy's to pay \$650,000 in shopper-profiling probe

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)—The retailer Macy's has agreed to pay \$650,000 to settle allegations

of racial profiling at its flagship store in Manhattan's Herald Square. Under the agreement with New York's attorney general, the company will adopt new policies on police access to its security camera monitors and against profiling, further train employees, investigate customer complaints, keep better records of detentions and report for three years on compliance. Attorney General Eric Schneiderman says this addresses more than a dozen recent complaints of profiling and false detentions of shoppers and should help ensure customers are treated equally regardless of race or ethnicity at the retail giant's 42 department stores statewide.

Nation

US officials: Video shows American's beheading

WASHINGTON (AP)—A grisly video released Tuesday shows Islamic State militants beheading American journalist James Foley, U.S. officials said, in what the extremists called retribution for recent U.S. airstrikes in Iraq. The militants threatened to kill another captive they also identified as an American journalist.

Separately, Foley's family confirmed his death in a statement posted on a Facebook page that was created to rally support for his release, saying they "have never been prouder of him."

"He gave his life trying to expose the world to the suffering of the Syrian people," said the statement, which was attributed to Foley's mother, Diane Foley. She implored the militants to spare the lives of other hostages. "Like Jim, they are innocents. They have no control over American government policy in Iraq, Syria or anywhere in the world."

How can authorities restore order in Ferguson?

They've lined the streets with police in riot gear, brought in a new black commander with an empathetic manner, imposed a curfew, lifted it and deployed the National Guard—and still the violence erupts nightly in the town of Ferguson, Missouri.

After more than a week of unrest following the fatal police shooting of Michael Brown, an unarmed black 18-year-old, law enforcement and political leaders are left struggling for answers to a frustrating question: What can we do to restore peace to the community?

"It's the question of the week, the month and the year: How do you bring this to a conclusion?" asked Thomas



AP
In this Friday, May 27, 2011, file photo, journalist James Foley responds to questions during an interview with The Associated Press, in Boston.

The statement was posted on a Facebook page called "Find James Foley," which his family has used a number of times since his November 2012 disappearance. Earlier Tuesday, a red-eyed but gracious Diane Foley said the family would not have an immediate statement when approached at her home by an Associated Press reporter. A priest arrived at the home several hours later.

Foley, a 40-year-old journalist from Rochester, New Hampshire, went missing in northern Syria while freelance-

ing for Agence France-Presse and the Boston-based media company GlobalPost. The car he was riding in was stopped by four militants in a contested battle zone that both Sunni rebel fighters and government forces were trying to control. He had not been heard from since.

The video released on websites Tuesday appears to show the increasing sophistication of the Islamic State group's media arm and begins with scenes of President Barack Obama explaining his decision to order airstrikes.

Nolan, a former Boston police officer and criminal justice professor at the State University of New York at Plattsburgh.

One answer, Nolan said, rests with police, who should take the initiative to meet with nonviolent protesters, pledge to scale back some of the more military-style methods of crowd control, such as sound cannons, and increase the recruitment of black police officers—something the city said it plans to address. Only three members of Ferguson's 53-person force are black, even though about two-thirds of the residents are black.

"If the police keep showing up every night in force with a military presence, these protesters are going to keep show-

ing up," Nolan said. "Something has got to give. ... Police are trained not to back down. I think they need to reimagine this and realize their responsibility ultimately is public safety and not to save face. If it takes making some concessions and meeting people they're not enthusiastic about meeting with—that's what needs to be done. If not, who can say how long this goes on?"

On Tuesday, Ferguson officials released a statement, saying they plan to "learn from this tragedy" and vowed to take steps that could increase the number of black applicants to the police department and offer incentives to encourage city residency for police officers.

Texas Gov. Perry booked on abuse of power charges

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—Gov. Rick Perry was defiant Tuesday as he was booked on abuse of power charges, telling dozens of cheering supporters outside a Texas courthouse that he would "fight this injustice with every fiber of my being."

Showing no hint of worry on his face, Perry flashed a thin, confident grin beneath perfect hair in his mug shot—then headed to a nearby Austin eatery for vanilla ice cream, even gleefully documenting his excursion via Twitter.

The Republican, who is mulling a second presidential run in 2016, was indicted after carrying out a threat to veto funding for state public corruption prosecutors. He has dismissed the case a political ploy, and supporters chanting his last name and holding signs—some declaring "Stop

Democrat Games" and "Rick is Right"—greeted him upon arriving at a Travis County Courthouse in Austin.

"I'm going to fight this injustice with every fiber of my being. And we will prevail," Perry said before walking inside the building, where he set off a metal detector but didn't break stride, heading straight to a first-floor office to have his fingerprints taken and stand for the mug shot. In it he's wearing a blue tie but shed the glasses that have become something of his trademark in recent months.

The longest-serving governor in Texas history was indicted last week for coercion and official oppression for publicly promising to veto \$7.5 million for the state public integrity unit, which investigates wrongdoing by

elected officials and is run by the Travis County district attorney's office. Perry threatened the veto if the county's Democratic district attorney, Rosemary Lehmberg, stayed in office after a drunken driving conviction.

Lehmberg refused to resign and Perry carried out the veto, drawing an ethics complaint from a left-leaning government watchdog group.

Perry was indicted by a grand jury in Austin, a liberal bastion in otherwise mostly fiercely conservative Texas.

"I'm going to enter this courthouse with my head held high knowing the actions I took were not only lawful and legal, but right," Perry told supporters before heading inside the building located just steps from the governor's mansion.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

McDonald's to sell packaged coffee nationally

NEW YORK (AP)—McDonald's plans to start selling its packaged coffee at supermarkets nationally by early next year, a move intended to help raise the profile of the coffee sold at its U.S. restaurants. The world's biggest hamburger chain has made a deal with Kraft Foods to manufacture and distribute the bags of McCafe ground and whole bean coffee, as well as single-cup pods that can be used in at-home coffee machines. Other chains, such as Starbucks and Dunkin' Donuts, already sell branded packaged coffee at retailers. McDonald's,

Asia

Tens of thousands march on Pakistani parliament

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Tens of thousands of protesters armed with wire cutters and backed by cranes broke through barriers protecting Pakistan's parliament and other government buildings Tuesday night, demanding the country's prime minister resign.

Government authorities had warned they would not allow protesters to enter Islamabad's "Red Zone," but the demonstrators met no immediate resistance from police or the hundreds of troops guarding the buildings.

Wearing masks and carrying makeshift shields, they hammered through barbed wire and locks connecting shipping containers that had been erected as a barrier around the zone, which also holds the president's and prime minister's ceremonial homes and many diplomatic posts.

Demanding the resignation of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, they shouted, "Go, Nawaz, go!" Excited young men and women made V-for-victory signs.

A government minister, Saad Rafiq, said the prime minister allowed the protesters to enter the sensitive area to avoid bloodshed.

The Pakistani army warned the

protesters against entering parliament or any other installation. It called on all sides to resolve the situation through discussion.

Men, women and children took part in the protest by some 30,000 supporters of opposition candidate Imran Khan and anti-government cleric Tahir-ul-Qadri.

Both men have called on Sharif to step down over allegations of fraud in last year's election. Sharif has refused and ordered the soldiers out into the streets, the first such military deployment in the capital under any civilian government in Pakistani history.

Two Pakistani security officials said 700 troops had been deployed to guard the Red Zone. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not allowed to speak publicly about troop movements. An additional 30,000 members of the country's security forces were also deployed in the capital, authorities said.

The protesters "want blood. They want dead bodies. That's their politics," Information Minister Pervaiz Rashid said. "If anything happen, the protesters will be held responsible."

The demonstrators have

camped out in Islamabad in two rallies since last week. Khan and Qadri have vowed to keep up the sit-ins until Sharif resigns.

Khan said Tuesday that his supporters would make a "Tahrir Square" outside parliament, referring to the square in Egypt where mass protests in 2011 brought down President Hosni Mubarak.

"Let us promise that we will remain peaceful," Qadri urged followers. Khan told supporters: "No one will trespass into any building."

Sharif has agreed to set up a judicial commission to investigate allegations that his Pakistan Muslim League-N rigged the elections.

The standoff has raised fears of political instability in this nuclear-armed country of 180 million, which has largely been ruled by dictators since independence in 1947. Both opposition leaders picked Pakistan's Independence Day to begin their marches.

Relations between Sharif and the military frayed when the government decided late last year to prosecute former army chief Pervez Musharraf on treason charges.

At least 6 dead, 22 missing in Hiroshima landslide

TOKYO (AP)—At least six people were confirmed dead and 22 were missing after rain-sodden hills in the outskirts of Hiroshima gave way early Wednesday in several landslides.

Video footage from the national broadcaster NHK showed suburban homes in the western Japanese city surrounded by streams of mud and debris, and residents picking their way over piles of rocks and dirt.

Rescue workers suspended by ropes from police helicopters were pulling victims from the rubble as they searched homes stranded amid piles of lumber from crushed houses.

The Fire and Disaster Management Agency, citing the local government, said six people were confirmed dead and an-

other 22 were missing as of late morning. It said at least 20 people were injured, one seriously.

NHK, citing local police, put the death toll at 18.

"A few people were washed away and it is hard to know exactly how many are unaccounted for," said local government official Nakatoshi Okamoto, noting that the conditions in the disaster area were hindering efforts to account for all those affected.

Authorities issued warnings that further rains could trigger more landslides and flooding.

Landslides are a constant risk in mountainous, crowded Japan, where many homes are built on or near steep slopes. Torrential rains in the early morning apparently caused

slopes to collapse in an area where many of the buildings were newly constructed.

Damage from land and mudslides has increased over the past few decades due to more frequent heavy rains, despite extensive work on stabilizing slopes. In the past decade there have been nearly 1,200 landslides a year, according to the land ministry, up from an average of about 770 a year in the previous decade.

In October last year, multiple mudslides on Izu-Oshima, an island south of Tokyo, killed 35 people, four of whose bodies were never recovered. Those slides followed a typhoon that dumped a record 824 millimeters (more than 32 inches) of rain in a single day.

tried to defend herself, Indonesian authorities say.

Afghanistan bars NYT reporter from leaving country

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Afghanistan's attorney general has barred a New York Times correspondent from leaving the country because of a story in which he reported that a group of officials were considering seizing power because of the impasse over who won the recent presidential election, a spokesman said Tuesday. Basir Azizi, a spokesman for the attorney general, said Matthew Rosenberg's Aug. 18 story was "against the law and national interests of Afghanistan." Azizi said Rosenberg was asked to come to the attorney general's office on Wednesday with his lawyer. The head of the Kabul International Airport confirmed the attorney general sent a letter saying Rosenberg couldn't leave the country. "We are implementing that order," Agh Nawaz Ahaqyar said.

World

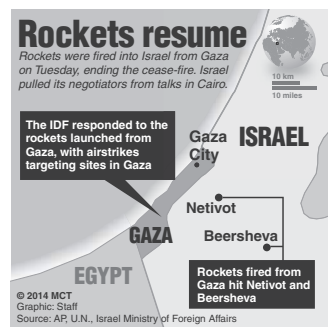
Gaza cease-fire efforts collapse in heavy fighting

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)—Egyptian attempts to broker an end to a month-long war between Israel and Hamas collapsed in heavy fighting Tuesday, with Palestinian militants firing dozens of rockets and Israel responding with airstrikes across the Gaza Strip. At least three Palestinians were killed.

The burst of violence, which erupted in the hours before a temporary truce was set to expire, left the Egyptian mediation efforts in tatters and raised the likelihood of a new round of fighting in a war that has already claimed more than 2,000 lives, most of them Palestinians.

The fighting broke out when Gaza militants fired several rockets into Israel Tuesday afternoon. Israel quickly withdrew its delegation from the Cairo cease-fire talks and resumed its campaign of airstrikes, and fighting continued into the night.

Three people—two women and a 2-year-old girl—were killed in an airstrike on



a house in Gaza City, Palestinian medical official Ashraf al-Kidra said. The target of the airstrike wasn't immediately known.

However, in Cairo, Moussa Abu Marzouk, a senior Hamas leader, said the dead included the wife and a child of Mohammed Deif, the Islamic militant group's elusive military chief, who has escaped numerous Israeli assassination attempts in the past. There was no immediate confirmation from Hamas leaders in Gaza.

Twenty-one people were wounded in a separate airstrike that hit a building that houses offices of Hamas' Al Aqsa TV station, al-Kidra said. The fa-

Ukrainian forces press attacks on rebel-held areas

DONETSK, Ukraine (AP)—Government troops pressed attacks Tuesday in the two largest cities held by pro-Russian rebels in eastern Ukraine, while Kiev also pursued diplomatic efforts to resolve the conflict that has killed more than 2,000 and displaced another 300,000.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko prepared to host German Chancellor Angela Merkel this weekend before heading to a meeting next week with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The next two weeks "will be crucial for finding the way to move from war to peace," said Valery Chaly, the deputy head of Poroshenko's administration.

He said in a televised briefing that Kiev sees "clear diplomatic roadmap" ahead and expressed hope that a new approach could be found to end the war.

Poroshenko's efforts to quell the insurgency have been focused on encircling Donetsk, the largest rebel-controlled city and a regional capital. Fighting began in mid-April after Russia annexed Crimea, a peninsula on the Black Sea, while Kiev's forces have recaptured significant amounts of territory from the separatists.

Moscow has denied allegations by Kiev and the West that it has fomented the rebellion in the Russian-speaking parts of eastern Ukraine. It says the Ukrainian government has

discriminated against residents of the region who seek closer ties to Russia.

In fighting Tuesday, one soldier was killed and four were wounded when a pro-Kiev battalion of volunteers came under mortar fire before entering the town of Ilovaysk, 18 kilometers (11 miles) east of Donetsk, Ukrainian officials said.

Among the wounded in Ilovaysk was the commander of the Donbass battalion, Semyon

talities were the first since a temporary truce was reached last Wednesday.

Israeli officials reported at least 50 rockets were fired late Tuesday, setting off air raid sirens throughout southern Israel and as far away as the cities of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. There were no reports of injuries, though a piece of a rocket that was intercepted near Tel Aviv fell on a busy road.

Israel's civil defense authority, the Home Front Command, ordered authorities to reopen public bomb shelters within 50 miles (80 kilometers) of Gaza.

In Cairo, Palestinian negotiators declared the cease-fire talks over, and said they would leave Egypt on Wednesday.

Azzam al-Ahmad, leader of the delegation, blamed Israel for the failure, but held out hope that the talks could be resumed.

"We told the Egyptians we are ready to return to the talks once they find the proper atmosphere," he said, adding that the Palestinians had submitted a final cease-fire proposal.

Semenchenko, who said his forces had destroyed three rebel checkpoints and four firing positions and that fighting continued. Semenchenko, who appears in public in his trademark balaclava, has cult hero status in Ukraine for his battlefield exploits.

Ukrainian troops also captured a neighborhood in the regional capital of Luhansk, battling rebels on the city's streets, National Security Council spokesman Andriy Lysenko said.

Liberia president declares Ebola curfew

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP)—Liberia's president declared a curfew and ordered security forces to quarantine a slum home to at least 50,000 people late Tuesday as the West African country battled to stop the spread of Ebola in the capital.

The measures came as authorities said that three health workers in the country who received an experimental drug for the disease are showing signs of recovery, though medical experts caution it is not certain if the drug is effective.

At least 1,229 people have died of Ebola in Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Nigeria in the current outbreak, and more than 2,240 have been sickened, according to the World Health Organization. The fastest rising number of cases has been reported in Liberia, with at least 466 dead.

Authorities here have struggled to treat and isolate the sick, in part because of widespread

fear that treatment centers are places where people go to die. Many sick people have hidden in their homes, relatives have sometimes taken their loved ones away from health centers, and mobs have occasionally attacked health workers.

Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf announced late Tuesday that a curfew is going into place from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. Security forces also will be ensuring no one goes in or out of West Point, a slum in the capital where angry residents attacked an Ebola observation center over the weekend.

"We have been unable to control the spread due to continued denials, cultural burying practices, disregard for the advice of health workers and disrespect for the warnings by the government," she said. "As a result and due to the large population concentration the disease has spread widely in Monrovia and environs."



ASIAN BRIEFS

American slain in Bali, daughter had troubled past

CHICAGO (AP)—A Chicago woman whose beaten body was found stuffed in a suitcase on the Indonesian resort island of Bali was repeatedly and violently abused by the daughter who has been arrested in her killing, according to police reports. A Chicago-based lawyer for the 19-year-old daughter, Heather Mack, meanwhile, says he is concerned for her well-being after she told him she has been sexually assaulted in custody. Indonesian police deny any mistreatment. The body of Sheila von Wiese-Mack, 62, was found last week inside a suitcase in the trunk of a taxi in front of the upscale St. Regis Bali Resort in Bali's exclusive Nusa Dua district. Her body is expected back in the U.S. on Wednesday. An autopsy found she died of asphyxiation after her nose was broken by a blunt blow. Other bones were broken in her head and face, and wounds on her hands indicate she

Focus

No photos: Parents opt to keep babies off Facebook

By BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Behold the cascade of baby photos, the flood of funny kid anecdotes and the steady stream of school milestones on Facebook.

It all makes Sonia Rao, a stay-at-home mother of a 1-year-old in Mountain View, California, “a little uncomfortable.”

“I just have a vague discomfort having her photograph out there for anyone to look at,” says Rao. “When you meet a new person and go to their account, you can look them up, look at photos, videos, know that they are traveling.”

At a time when just about everyone and their mother—father, grandmother and aunt—is intent on publicizing the newest generation’s early years on social media sites, an increasing number of parents like Rao are bucking the trend by consciously keeping their children’s photos, names and entire identities off the Internet.

Reasons for the baby blackout vary. Some parents have privacy and safety concerns. Others worry about what companies might do with their child’s image and personal data. Some simply do it out of respect for their kids’ autonomy before they are old enough to make decisions for themselves.

“I have a no tolerance policy,” says Scott Steinberg, a St. Louis-based business and technology consultant who has more than 4,800 Facebook friends. Steinberg says he shares no photos, videos or any information about his child.

“If I don’t want somebody to know about my child, to take an active interest in them, to recognize them in a city street or as they are leaving the schoolyard, the easiest way to do that is to not have any identifying information out about them,” he says.

As for Rao, she says she is otherwise active on Facebook, and even had an Instagram account for her dog before the baby was born. She’s happy posting photos of the canine, but not the many snapshots of her daughter and the dog together—no matter how cute they are. Rao does share baby pictures, via email or text, but only with close friends and family.

Facebook, for its part, encourages parents to use the site’s privacy setting if they want to limit who can see their baby photos and other posts. It’s possible, for example, to create a group of close friends and relatives to share kid updates with. But that’s not enough for some users.

New parents Josh Furman and his wife, Alisha Klapholz, are “very protective” of their



AP
In this Saturday, Aug. 16, 2014 photo provided by Wasim Ahmad, Ahmad, left, and his wife, Lakshmi Ramsoondar-Ahmad, pose with their newborn son in Merrick, N.Y.

newborn. The Silver Spring, Maryland, couple believes it’s in their daughter’s best interest to limit her Internet presence for as long as possible. As such, they haven’t posted her legal name on Facebook and don’t post photos of her on the site. Instead, they share her Hebrew name and also came up with a nickname to use just on Facebook. They ask friends and family to do the same.

“In 2014 we sort of feel like the repercussions of sharing private data are totally unpredictable,” says Furman, a doctoral

candidate in history at the University of Maryland.

Like his wife, Furman is very active on Facebook. Even so, he says “our child isn’t capable of making decisions about what details of her life she’d like to share or not.” So they are waiting until she can.

A big reason parents are wary, even if they use social media sites themselves, is that the companies “have not been very transparent about the way they collect data about users,” says Caroline Knorr, parenting editor at the nonprofit Common Sense

Media, which studies children’s use of technology. “Facebook’s terms of service and privacy (policies)—no one reads it, it’s too obscure.”

Some parents look back to their own childhoods, when they were able to make mistakes without evidence of those blunders living on—forever—online.

“I had the choice of what I wanted to reveal publicly,” says Wasim Ahmad, journalism professor at Stony Brook University and father of a newborn son. “I’d like to, as much as I can,

retain the possibility of choice for him.”

Two days after his son was born, Ahmad bought the website domain with his son’s name.

“I’m going to make it a private website with a password so family can log in” to see updates, he says. “When he gets old enough, I’ll probably give him the keys.”

The parents hasten to make clear that they have no problems with other people who post their own baby photos.

“Many of our close friends put up photos of their kids and

we love seeing them,” says Furman. “This is just a decision that we made for our child, and people have been respectful.”

People have shared baby photos since the dawn of the camera, and stories about kids’ shenanigans long before that. Parents who decide to keep photos of their children and other data off social media say they still want to share those things, but they are bothered by the idea of online permanence.

“I think my parents told embarrassing stories about me as a child at cocktail parties, no doubt. But those can’t be brought back up now—or if they are, it’s to a small audience and not the whole world,” says Amy Heinz, who regularly shares anecdotes about her three children on her blog, usingourwords.com.

To protect the privacy of her children, she refers to them in blogs by nicknames—Big, Little and Pink. At first, she didn’t use photos of their faces, but she’s eased up.

“I am always conscious that what I’m posting is affecting more than myself,” she says.

Parents who enforce strict blackout rules are still very much in the minority. In a 2011 survey, 66 percent of Generation X parents (people born in the 1960s and ’70s) said they post photos of their children online, while more than half said they have shared news about a child’s accomplishment online. The poll was part of the Longitudinal Study of American Youth at the University of Michigan’s Institute for Social Research.

Aisha Sultan, a fellow at the institute when the poll was conducted, thinks the results might be different if the same questions were posed to respondents today.

“Back (then) there wasn’t a lot of conversation about this,” says Sultan, who is a nationally syndicated parenting advice columnist at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. “When parents first started joining Facebook in large numbers it wasn’t the primary concern. We felt like we were in control of information we were sharing with friends and family.”

Facebook’s privacy blunders over the years, not to mention frequent updates to its confusing privacy policies, changed all that. Now, Sultan says, parents are much more aware of the little control they have over their personal data online.

Tips for parents: To post or not to post?

By BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Privacy-wary parents are increasingly pausing before they post photos, names and other information about their wee ones on social media. Some are choosing a complete blackout, while others opt for nicknames and a few carefully selected snapshots.

Here are some social media tips for parents, relatives and friends.

ASK FIRST, POST LATER

If you don’t know how a parent feels about having photos of their kids posted on Facebook, Instagram or elsewhere, ask before uploading a photo and before you tag the parents in a photo. This goes even for close relatives. Actually, it’s not a bad idea to ask everyone you post a photo of if they’re cool with it, especially if the snaps were taken at a party, swim-

ming pool or any other less buttoned-up situation. It can prevent awkward conversations later.

LIMIT AUDIENCES

Facebook’s privacy settings are complex, but they also offer granular settings that let you pick who can see your updates. One way to do this: Create a “secret” group and add the members you want. The problem here is that anyone in the group can add new members to the group.

Another way to limit the audience of each post you share is to click on the right tab under your update, which may currently say “friends” or “public.” Click on “custom” and choose which of your Facebook friends you want to share with and which ones you’d like to exclude. It’s simpler on Instagram, where you can either lock your account or set it to public.

TALK TO YOUR KIDS

Opinions on the age at which parents should start talking to their kids about Internet and social media use vary. Some parents start as soon as their child is old enough to use a smartphone, which can be as early as 2 or 3 years. Amy Heinz, who blogs about her kids, often talks to her 8-year-old about posts she writes about him, but says her younger children, who are 5 and 3, know about the blog but “don’t have a concept” of what it means exactly. Caroline Knorr, parenting editor at the nonprofit Common Sense Media, waited until her son was 15 before posting a photo of him on Facebook—and asked his permission first.

GO THE OLD-FASHIONED ROUTE

Some parents opt for emailing or texting photos to one person or to a small group rather than sharing them more

widely on social media. Online storage services such as Google Drive and Dropbox also let you distribute photos privately, as do photo-sharing sites such as Flickr. Of course, there’s always the old-fashioned snail mail method, if you can still find a place to print snapshots.

DON’T EMBARRASS THEM

That photo of your little one with pea soup all over her face, or the one that shows her first time on the potty might be funny at the time, but think about what she may think of the photo if it’s still online when she’s a teen. Today’s generation of parents did not grow up with the reality that their private moments growing up will be documented and often posted on the Internet for all eternity. Before posting a photo or anecdote, take a moment to imagine a conversation about it with your child 10 or 15 years from now.

Environment

Emerging solar plants scorch birds in mid-air

IVANPAH DRY LAKE, Calif.

(AP)—Workers at a state-of-the-art solar plant in the Mojave Desert have a name for birds that fly through the plant's concentrated sun rays—"streamers," for the smoke plume that comes from birds that ignite in midair.

Federal wildlife investigators who visited the BrightSource Energy plant last year and watched as birds burned and fell, reporting an average of one "streamer" every two minutes, are urging California officials to halt the operator's application to build a still-bigger version.

The investigators want the halt until the full extent of the deaths can be assessed. Estimates per year now range from a low of about a thousand by BrightSource to 28,000 by an expert for the Center for Biological Diversity environmental group.

The deaths are "alarming. It's hard to say whether that's the location or the technology," said Garry George, renewable-energy director for the California chapter of the Audubon Society. "There needs to be some caution."

The bird kills mark the latest instance in which the quest for clean energy sometimes has inadvertent environmental harm. Solar farms have been criticized for their impacts on desert tortoises, and wind farms have killed birds, including numerous raptors.

"We take this issue very seriously," said Jeff Holland, a spokesman for NRG Solar of Carlsbad, California, the second of the three companies behind the plant. The third, Google, deferred comment to its partners.

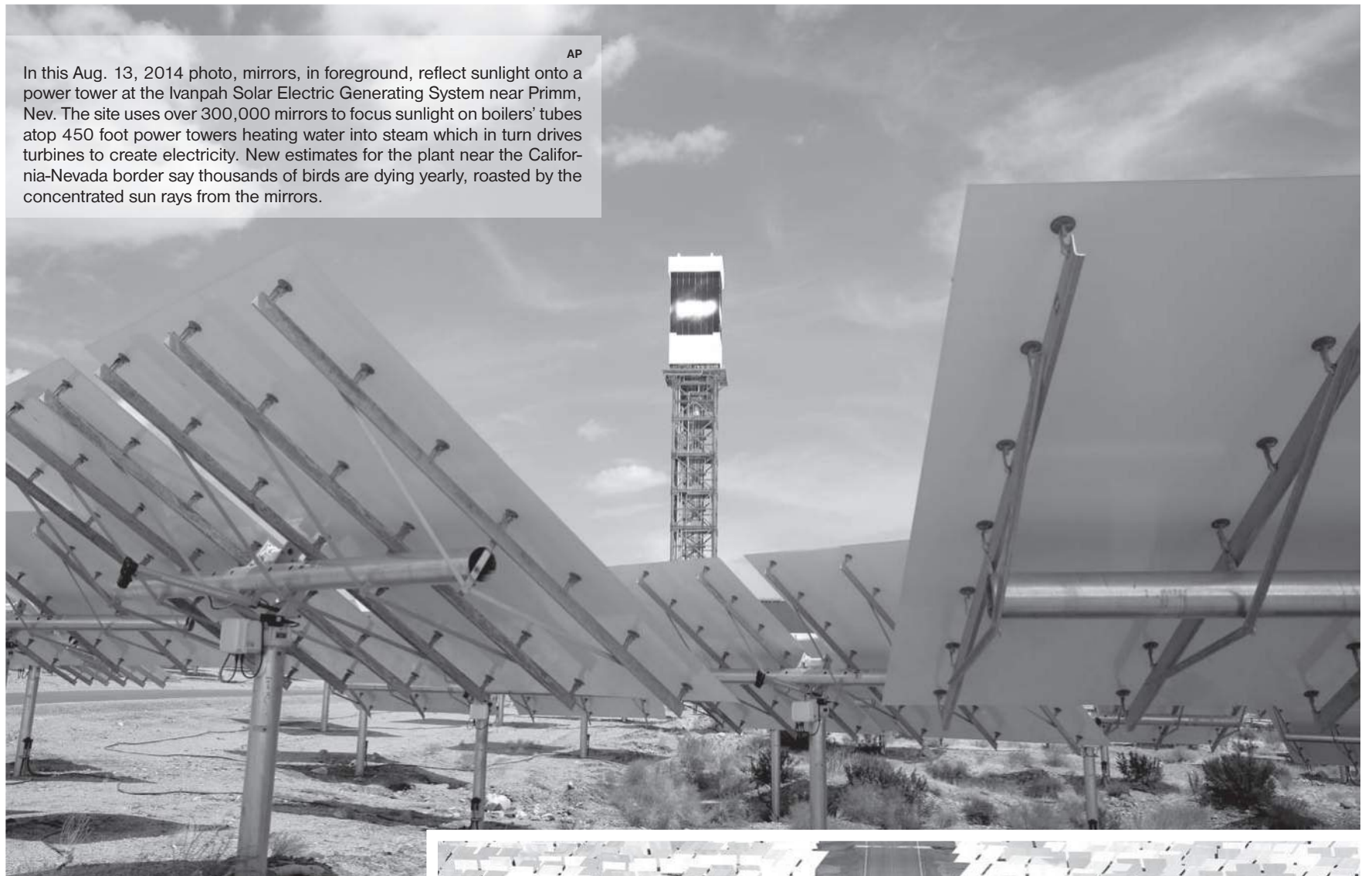
The \$2.2 billion plant, which launched in February, is at Ivanpah Dry Lake near the California-Nevada border. The operator says it's the world's biggest plant to employ so-called power towers.

More than 300,000 mirrors, each the size of a garage door, reflect solar rays onto three boiler towers each looming up to 40 stories high. The water inside is heated to produce steam, which turns turbines that generate enough electricity for 140,000 homes.

Sun rays sent up by the field of mirrors are bright enough to dazzle pilots flying in and out of Las Vegas and Los Angeles.

Federal wildlife officials said Ivanpah might act as a "mega-trap" for wildlife, with the bright light of the plant attracting insects, which in turn attract insect-eating birds that fly to their death in the intensely focused light rays.

Federal and state biologists call the number of deaths sig-



AP
In this Aug. 13, 2014 photo, mirrors, in foreground, reflect sunlight onto a power tower at the Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System near Primm, Nev. The site uses over 300,000 mirrors to focus sunlight on boilers' tubes atop 450 foot power towers heating water into steam which in turn drives turbines to create electricity. New estimates for the plant near the California-Nevada border say thousands of birds are dying yearly, roasted by the concentrated sun rays from the mirrors.

nificant, based on sightings of birds getting singed and falling, and on retrieval of carcasses with feathers charred too severely for flight.

Ivanpah officials dispute the source of the so-called streamers, saying at least some of the puffs of smoke mark insects and bits of airborne trash being ignited by the solar rays.

Wildlife officials who witnessed the phenomena say many of the clouds of smoke were too big to come from anything but a bird, and they add that they saw "birds entering the solar flux and igniting, consequently become a streamer."

U.S. Fish and Wildlife officials say they want a death toll for a full year of operation.

Given the apparent scale of bird deaths at Ivanpah, authorities should thoroughly track bird kills there for a year, including during annual migratory seasons, before granting any more permits for that kind of solar technology, said George, of the Audubon Society.

The toll on birds has been surprising, said Robert Weisenmiller, chairman of the California Energy Commission. "We didn't see a lot of impact" on birds at the first, smaller power towers in the U.S. and Europe, Weisenmiller said.

The commission is now considering the application from Oakland-based BrightSource

to build a mirror field and a 75-story power tower that would reach above the sand dunes and creek washes between Joshua Tree National Park and the California-Arizona border.

The proposed plant is on a flight path for birds between the Colorado River and California's largest lake, the Salton Sea—an area, experts say, is richer in avian life than the Ivanpah plant, with protected golden eagles and peregrine falcons and more than 100 other species of birds recorded there.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service officials warned California this month that the power-tower style of solar technology holds "the highest lethality potential" of the many solar projects burgeoning in the deserts of California.

The commission's staff estimates the proposed new tower would be almost four times as dangerous to birds as the Ivan-

pah plant. The agency is expected to decide this autumn on the proposal.

While biologists say there is no known feasible way to curb the number of birds killed, the companies behind the projects say they are hoping to find one—studying whether lights, sounds or some other technology would scare them away, said Joseph Desmond, senior vice president at BrightSource Energy.

BrightSource also is offering \$1.8 million in compensation for anticipated bird deaths at Palen, Desmond said.

The company is proposing the money for programs such as those to spay and neuter domestic cats, which a government study found kill over 1.4 billion birds a year. Opponents say that would do nothing to help the desert birds at the proposed site.

Power-tower proponents are fighting to keep the deaths from

forcing a pause in the building of new plants when they see the technology on the verge of becoming more affordable and accessible, said Thomas Conroy, a renewable-energy expert.

When it comes to powering the country's grids, "diversity of technology ... is critical," Conroy said. "Nobody should be arguing let's be all coal, all solar," all wind, or all nuclear. "And every one of those technologies has a long list of pros and cons."



AP
In this Aug. 13, 2014 photo, A truck drives through an array of mirrors at the Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System near Primm, Nev. The site uses over 300,000 mirrors to focus sunlight on boilers' tubes atop 450 foot towers heating water into steam which in turn drives turbines to create electricity.

Life & Style

Longtime 'SNL' announcer Don Pardo dies at 96

NEW YORK (AP)—Few would recognize his face, but most knew his voice: the booming baritone that for nearly four decades heralded “Saturday Night Live.” Don Pardo, the eras-spanning radio and TV announcer whose resonant voice-over style was celebrated for its majesty and power, died Monday in Arizona at the age of 96.

“He became our link to the beginnings of television on NBC—and radio,” said Lorne Michaels, who, as creator of “SNL” (and who remains its executive producer) hired Pardo.

Pardo’s strong jaw and leading-man smile were seldom on display, but for more than 60 years his elegant pipes graced newscasts, game shows (during the original run of “Jeopardy!” its emcee ritually called on him to “Tell ‘em what they’ve won, Don Pardo”) and especially “SNL,” where he played an integral role through last season, heralding the lineup, like always, as recently as the May finale.

“There was no greater thrill than hearing Don Pardo bellow your name for the first time in the opening credits of ‘Saturday Night Live,’” said longtime cast member Tina Fey. “It meant you were officially ‘on television.’”

Fey described Pardo as “a sweet, sweet man,” adding, “Late night will never sound as cool again.”

“My whole life changed once Don Pardo said my name,” echoed Amy Poehler, a fellow “SNL” alum. “I will really miss that kind and talented man.”

His was no ordinary voice and he guarded it closely, with cough drops always at the ready.

“My voice is my Achilles’ heel,” Pardo said in a 1985 interview with The Associated Press. “When I get sick, it’s always my voice.” But it served him well from a tender age.

Dominick George Pardo was born in Westfield, Massachusetts, on Feb. 22, 1918, and grew up in Norwich, Connecticut.

One of his first jobs was that of ticket-taker at a local movie theater; even then, his voice was commanding.

“I’d go out there with a cape and say: ‘Standing room only in the mezzanine. Immediate seating in the balcony.’”

His father, Dominick, owned a small bakery and had wanted his son to join the business. But young Pardo followed his own dream. After graduat-

ing from Boston’s Emerson College in 1942, he began his vocal career at radio station WJAR in Providence, Rhode Island.

Two years later, he was hired by a supervisor at NBC immediately upon hearing his voice. He moved to NBC’s New York affiliate, and never left the network.

Pardo made his mark quickly, reading news dispatches on the radio filed from the front lines during World War II. After the war, he was the announcer for such shows as the “Arthur Murray Party,” “Colgate Comedy Hour” and “Your Show of Shows.”

In 1954, he was brought in to announce “Winner Takes All,” beginning a long run in game shows. He was heard forcefully on the original “The Price is Right” (1956-63) and the original “Jeopardy!” (1964-75), hosted by Art Fleming.

When NBC launched the radical, cutting-edge “Saturday Night Live” in 1975 with Pardo as its charmingly old-school patriarch, he was discovered by a new generation—although, on opening night, he made a rare stumble, botching one of the credits. Instead of saying “The Not Ready for Prime Time Players,” Pardo introduced the show’s new comedy troupe as “The Not for Ready Prime Time Players.”

Aside from Season 7, when he was rudely displaced, Pardo remained an “SNL” mainstay.

Between working on shows, Pardo often spent several hours a day in an NBC sound studio as one of the last network “booth announcers” working a regular daily shift.

And every weekday afternoon for



This Sept. 25, 1982 photo provided by NBC shows announcer Don Pardo. Pardo, the durable television and radio announcer whose resonant voice-over style was widely imitated and became the standard in the field, died Monday, Aug. 18, 2014 in Arizona at the age of 96.

several years in the 1980s, Pardo would quickly clad himself in a tie and blazer to step on camera long enough to announce the local New York station’s “Live at Five” newscast—although Pardo’s vocal alchemy rendered it as

“Liiiiive at Fiiviiiiive!”

Pardo retired from NBC in 2004.

“But Lorne Michaels called me soon after and asked if I would continue for three more weeks, so I did,” Pardo told the AP in 2010. “Then he called and

asked if I would do five more, and so on. I never really left.”

For several years, Pardo commuted from Tucson each week the show aired. He arrived to open the show in Rockefeller Center’s fabled Studio 8H and then caught a returning flight. At the end of the show on Feb. 23, 2008, he was brought on camera to blow out the candles of a birthday cake in honor of his 90th birthday.

In later years, he more often recorded his introductions from home, where he died peacefully Monday afternoon, said his daughter Dona Pardo.

Pardo appeared in several movies, mostly as himself or an announcer like himself, including Woody Allen’s “Radio Days,” an homage to the Golden Age of broadcasting. He also made a guest appearance on Frank Zappa’s 1978 album, “Zappa in New York,” and “Weird Al” Yankovic’s 1984 album, “In 3-D.”

In 2010, he was inducted into the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences’ Hall of Fame.

Pardo is survived by five children.

Don Pardo: a link to TV’s birth, says ‘SNL’ boss

NEW YORK (AP)—Don Pardo was a timeless classic, and in selecting him as the announcer for the brand-new “Saturday Night Live,” Lorne Michaels must have known it.

“When they gave me a list of NBC staff announcers and I saw his name, there was no hesitation,” Michaels, who remains “SNL” executive producer, recalled on Tuesday.

On Monday, Pardo died at age 96, having served as an “SNL” mainstay and through-line from its debut in October 1975 up through the close of its 39th season in May (apart from a year in the early 1980s when the show, under short-lived different management, rudely sidelined him).

Michaels, just 30 when “SNL” premiered, masterminded a brash, counter-culture brand of comedy show. But he had grown up hearing Pardo’s rich baritone on such 1950s game shows as the original “The Price Is Right.” The voice still resonated.

“He became our link to the beginnings of television on NBC,” said Michaels. “And radio. He joined NBC in June of 1944—I’m not born yet!” No, not for another six months.

So Michaels, however much the trail-blazer, chose to underpin his break-from-the-past new enterprise with a seasoned, old-school broadcaster.

“In an emotional, intuitive sense he

just sounded right to me,” said Michaels. “He was a really, really wonderful man, and, I suppose on some level, a paternal presence for each new cast.”

Generation after generation, “SNL” players have come and gone, replaced by the next wave. Pardo, certifying each of them by declaring their names on the air, stayed put.

But now, with the 40th season bearing down in September, Pardo has left a void. Who could ever replace him?

“It’s a question I’ve asked myself for maybe the last 10 years,” Michaels said. “I don’t have an answer. I’m still kind of dealing with this. Fortunately, I have a month.”

Peter Dinklage, Taylor Schilling to share NY stage

NEW YORK (AP)—An off-Broadway production of Ivan Turgenev's "A Month in the Country" has attracted a star of "Game of Thrones" and another from behind bars.

Classic Stage Company said Tuesday that "Game of Thrones" actor Peter Dinklage and Taylor Schilling from "Or-

ange Is The New Black" will co-star as Rakitin and Natalya in the revival, which kicks off Jan. 9.

The play, set on a country estate in 1840s Russia, deals with a bored, older and married woman who falls for a younger man, her son's tutor, who is idolized by the woman's vul-

nerable ward. Meanwhile, the older woman is worshipped by a long-suffering admirer.

The company's other shows this season include William Shakespeare's "Hamlet" starring Peter Sarsgaard, and Christopher Marlowe's "Doctor Faustus," starring "Sex in the City" star Chris Noth.



AP
This Aug. 4, 2014 file photo shows actor Taylor Schilling at a panel discussion with the cast of "Orange Is The New Black" at the Directors Guild of America Theater in Los Angeles.

Trisha Yearwood re-emerges twice as busy

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Once intent on scaling back her career to focus on family, country singer Trisha Yearwood now finds herself with two—platinum-selling musician with a new album on the way and emerging kitchen mogul.

"I kind of feel like Rocky in the first movie," Yearwood said.

An apt description: Yearwood announced Tuesday she's releasing a new album titled "PrizeFighter," the title taken from a new track she found inspiring as she contemplated relaunching her music career at 49. It coincides with the looming comeback tour with her husband, Garth Brooks. She's also launching cookware and cutlery lines, begins a new season of "Trisha's Southern Kitchen" next week and has her third cookbook out next spring.

"I kind of feel like the odds are not in my favor, so the song is really motivating in that way because it's just kind of like you've got to fight, you've got to fight for what you want," Yearwood said.

She and Brooks begin their tour Sept. 4 in Chicago, where they'll play 11 concerts—"We call it the freak show right now"—and she'll be taping new episodes of her show's fifth season between sets while on the road.

As the tour approached, she spent time in the studio tweaking her new album, which includes a hits package and six new songs. The music, she said, has been her priority amid all the other projects.

"I told the Food Network people, I love them, 'You guys are awesome, but I've got to finish my record. I've got to make

some music,'" Yearwood said.

Brooks and Yearwood chose to mostly shutter their careers after they married in 2005 and moved to Oklahoma, where they raised Brooks' three daughters. Since then, Yearwood has sold 12 million albums but released very little music. The Grammy Award winner's last album came out in 2007 and plans since were set aside when her mother was diagnosed with terminal breast cancer.

She said she found things too quiet without music, though, and hopes the new music will empower young women, just as several other recent songs by female artists have done.

"I love those songs that make girls put their hands in the air and say, 'Yeah, I can do that,'" she said. "Hopefully this song ('PrizeFighter') will do that."

Anna Nicole Smith's estate loses bid for millions

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP)—The estate of Anna Nicole Smith has failed in its final bid to obtain her late husband's money, seven years after the death of the Playboy model and reality TV star.

A federal judge in Orange County on Monday rejected the effort to obtain about \$44 million from the estate of Texas billionaire J. Howard Marshall, whom Smith married in 1994 when he was 89 and she was 26. The oil tycoon died the next year. His will left his \$1.6 billion estate to his son and nothing to Smith.

Smith, under her real name of Vickie Lynn Marshall, challenged the will, claiming that her husband promised to leave her more than \$300 million above the cash and gifts showered on her during their 14-month marriage. A Houston jury said Marshall was

mentally fit and under no undue pressure when he wrote the will.

Over the course of nearly 20 years, the Texas bankruptcy court and local and federal courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court, all rejected Smith's various attempts to overturn Marshall's will and trust and to obtain money from his estate.

The efforts continued even after Smith died of an accidental drug overdose in February 2007.

On Monday, U.S. District Court Judge David O. Carter denied a request from Smith's estate to sanction the estate of Marshall's son, E. Pierce Marshall.

"Time spent litigating the relationship between Vickie Lynn and J. Howard has extended for nearly five times the length of their relationship and

nearly twenty times the length of their marriage. It is neither reasonable nor practical to go forward," the judge said in his ruling. He noted that it was the last surviving piece of decades of litigation.

"The American taxpayer has supported the burden of this litigation for many years, and it is time for this suit to no longer 'drag its weary length before the Court,'" Carter concluded, quoting a Supreme Court decision in the case that itself quoted Charles Dickens' "Bleak House."

An email message for Howard K. Stern, the executor of Smith's estate, was not immediately returned Tuesday.

G. Eric Brunstad Jr., attorney for the Marshall family, said in a statement that the family agreed with the judge that it was time to stop the litigation.

Singer Ray J denies crimes at Beverly Hills hotel

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Singer Ray J has pleaded not guilty to groping a woman at a Beverly Hills hotel bar and resisting arrest afterward.

Los Angeles County prosecutors say Ray J—whose legal name is William Ray Norwood—entered the plea Tuesday to misdemeanor charges of sexual battery, vandalism, battery on a police officer and resisting a peace officer.

He's scheduled to return to court for a preliminary hearing Aug. 28.

Raj J was arrested May 30 after a woman said he groped her at a bar at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel.

Police say he refused to leave the bar when they arrived, became unruly and used his feet to shatter a patrol car window after being taken into custody.

Ray J is the brother of singer-actress Brandy Norwood.



AP
In this Aug. 16, 2014 file photo, Ray J attends the Los Angeles premiere of "Sparkle" at Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Los Angeles.

Cousin's tag-along kids push the limit of bride's guest list

DEAR ABBY: I am being married later this year, and I'm planning my guest list. My cousin "Emily" has five young children who I'm making an exception to invite. She lives across the country, so she's starting to book her plane reservations.

Emily just announced that she's being remarried and her fiancé has three children he shares joint custody of. Am I obligated to invite three children I have never met? This is causing a lot of grief between me and my fiancé because Emily assumes that they are all welcome. Please advise.

D.C. IN NYC

DEAR D.C.: Call Cousin Emily. Explain that your guest list is limited and that her five children -- to whom you are related -- are the exceptions. No other children have been invited to the wedding, and you would prefer to get to know her fiancé's children under less stressful circumstances.

Emily's wrong to assume she can include anyone whose name wasn't on her wedding invitation. The children can stay with their mother or grandparents during the time their father will be away.

DEAR ABBY: My husband prefers leftovers to sandwiches for his work lunch. He generally takes them in reusable plastic bowls

that claim to be dishwasher and microwave safe.

After a short time, these bowls become terribly stained. Not only are they unsightly, but sometimes they harbor odors. Even though they have been thoroughly washed, they seem unclean. We have noticed this happens more often with tomato-based food like spaghetti or barbecue.

I have tried soaking the bowls overnight in dishwashing detergent and even using a small amount of bleach, but the stains remain. Is there a way to remove the stains and odors, or must I continue to buy new bowls and throw the stained ones out?

BOWLED OVER IN ALABAMA

DEAR BOWLED OVER: According to "Haley's Hints," by Graham and Rosemary Haley (New American Library), if you soak the bowls and lids in cold water for five minutes or more before putting the leftovers into them, you can prevent the staining from happening. And the odors can be removed by placing crumpled newspaper inside them and putting the tops on before storing them. (This is also an effective way to deodorize shoes.)

DEAR ABBY: My daughter just got remarried to a man who has a 10-year-old son. I don't know the boy at all. What is the appropriate name he should call me? My daughter already has two boys from her first marriage and they, of course, call me Grandma.

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



I don't feel comfortable having her new stepson call me Grandma. Any suggestions?

NAMELESS IN NEW YORK

DEAR NAMELESS: Is your heart really so closed that you would tell that boy he isn't welcome in it? I urge you to be more accepting of this child, or you may get a name that isn't fit for a family newspaper -- and not only will the boy be using it, but also his father.

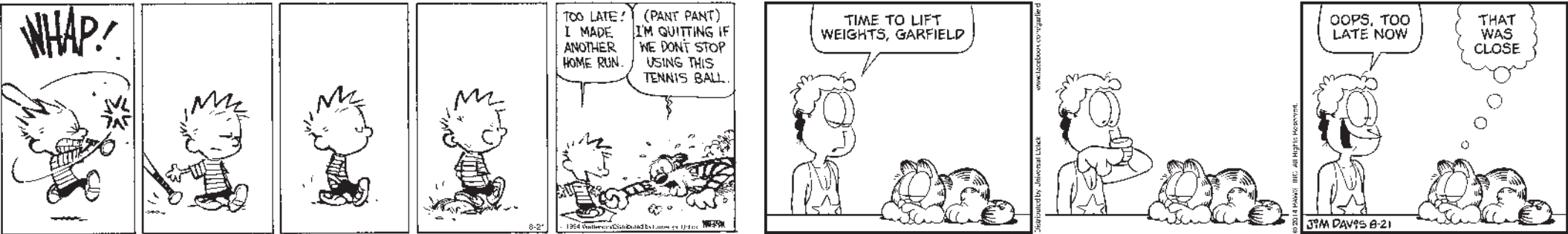
What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson Garfield®

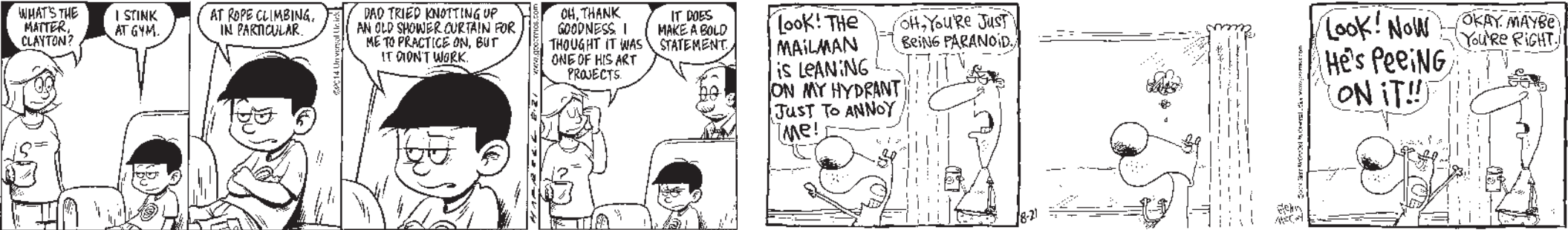
By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Celeb hat

5 Muppet eagle

8 Black, in verse

12 Collaborative website

13 Time of your life?

14 Exceptional

15 On

16 Pitch

17 On the rocks

18 Soloist's elegy

20 Make fun of

22 Round Table member

26 Betty or Vanna

29 Disen-cumber

30 Japanese sash

31 Ireland

32 Auction offer

33 Bambi, e.g.

34 Expert

35 Chum

36 Super-market section

DOWN

1 Emulated

19 Conk

2 One of the

23 Barbecue need

24 First victim

25 Tragic

26 Sobbed

27 Employ

28 Unbreak-able

32 Ship stabilizer

33 Ousts from

35 Dog's foot

36 Whatever number

38 Christmas entree, maybe

39 Butler's love

42 Pande-monium

43 Between jobs

44 Consider

45 "Hee —"

46 Carte intro

48 Payable

Solution time: 24 mins.

L	A	D	R	E	B					
C	O	C	O	L	E	V	E	E		
A	L	H	O	O	V	E	R	L		
W	A	T	E	R	F	O	L	N	T	A
E	M	O	D	O	P	E	S	I	P	O
		A	I	R				A	N	E
B	A	R	E	D	T	A	K	E	S	
F	L	U	B		P	L	M	A		
Q	U		S	U	I	T	T	E	F	B
G	R	E	E	N	M	O	L	T	A	N
B	L	E	A	A		D	A	M	O	N
R	O	A	M	S	E	X	E	S		
S	K	I		D	I	D				

Yesterday's answer 8-21

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Usain Bolt, 28; Alicia Witt, 39; Carrie-Anne Moss, 47; Kim Cattrall, 58.

Happy Birthday: If you focus on alternative ways to save, cut corners and utilize your skills more diversely, a positive change to your financial situation will occur. Get out and do more with friends and reconnect with people you have worked with in the past and new opportunities will be encouraged. Take care of your health and personal interests. Love is highlighted. Your numbers are 2, 9, 18, 25, 36, 45, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Avoid complaints by getting your responsibilities out of the way early. Expand your plans to include a little poking around in the stores or getting together with a friend or lover. Last-minute arrangements will lead to an exciting adventure. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Make your home base as comfortable as possible. A couple of changes that coax you to sit back and relax will do you good and ease your stress. Don't let the little things get to you. Compromise will help you avoid an argument. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Offering help is fine, but don't be fooled by someone taking advantage of your good nature. Put more effort into home, family and your personal relationship with someone who means a lot to you, and you will improve your life. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't get all worked up over nothing. Stick to whatever task you've been given and don't stop until you reach your goal. Taking a dif-

ferent approach to the way you handle someone at home will bring better results. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Personal secrets must only be shared with someone you trust implicitly. Change is overdue but must be done practically. Protect your health and your finances. Too much of anything will work against maintaining your standard of living. Love is highlighted. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take in whatever information is offered. Let your intuition guide you where partnerships are concerned. Listen carefully and speak from the heart. A decision you make regarding where you live will affect your financial future. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Refuse to let anyone stifle your plans. You can contribute a lot to a group that will appreciate what you have to offer. An interesting offer can lead to positive personal and professional changes. Romance will improve your life. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Take things one step at a time. Too much too fast will lead to loss. Keep life simple and live within your means. Problems at work must be kept to a minimum. Overreacting will result in an unexpected turn of events. Use your intuition. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Follow your heart and your instincts, not what someone tells you. You are likely to be misinterpreted or given false information if you aren't precise and do your own research. Focus on contracts, health and financial matters. ***

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't let the unexpected throw you off your game. Concentrate on what needs to be done and move forward professionally. It's how you handle matters that will catapult you into a better position. Don't let personal matters hold you back. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Talk openly, but don't let anyone convince you to take on more. You have to trust in your judgment and move forward at your own pace. A change in the way you handle others will set the stage for better days to come. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Engage in events that bring you in touch with youngsters or people you feel affectionate towards. You can build a stronger relationship and ensure that you have the support and backup you need when you move forward with personal plans. *****

Birthday Baby: You are popular, generous and caring. You are helpful and goal-oriented.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

		5				6				
			1		8					
4		7				9		1		
	3			9			4			
			2		5					
	1			8				5		
9		4					3		8	
			6		4					
							2			

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/21

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	5	2	1	6	3	4	7	9
1	4	3	8	7	9	2	6	5
9	6	7	5	4	2	8	1	3
3	2	1	4	5	6	9	8	7
4	8	6	2	9	7	5	3	1
7	9	5	3	8	1	6	4	2
5	1	8	9	3	4	7	2	6
6	3	4	7	2	5	1	9	8
2	7	9	6	1	8	3	5	4

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/21

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SHAPES Solution: 9 letters

L	L	E	B	R	S	S	A	L	G	R	U	O	H	T
M	D	I	O	R	E	H	P	S	A	E	C	T	T	N
C	Y	A	W	N	O	G	Y	L	O	P	N	R	S	I
P	O	R	T	G	E	B	U	C	C	L	A	L	E	O
S	A	N	I	E	G	G	S	I	A	E	N	A	L	P
M	T	R	E	A	E	R	V	H	③	①	②	④	D	
O	N	A	A	R	G	T	O	E	E	V	R	U	C	N
O	O	S	R	L	E	O	X	N	X	R	N	E	S	O
N	G	I	Q	M	L	A	N	O	A	O	I	L	O	M
O	L	D	O	U	H	E	C	G	G	U	E	G	S	A
G	O	E	E	A	T	L	A	O	N	L	N	I	I	
A	G	S	D	G	A	R	C	T	O	N	D	C	A	I
N	O	R	O	G	A	E	E	C	T	O	R	U	S	L
O	O	N	O	E	D	I	M	E	N	S	I	O	N	S
N	G	N	P	X	I	L	E	H	C	Y	C	L	I	C

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Angle, Bell, Bow Tie, Circle, Cone, Cube, Curve, Cyclic, Decagon, Diamond, Dimensions, Eggs, Enneagon, Geometric, Geon, Googolgon, Heart, Hectagon, Helix, Hexagon, Hexahedron, Hourglass, Irregular, Isosceles, Line, Moon, Myriagon, Nonagon, Octagon, Oval, Parallel, Pear, Plane, Point, Polygon, Rigid, Round, Sides, Size, Spheroid, Square, Star, Torus

Yesterday's Answer: **Legendary**

To purchase the **WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1**, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

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DAY & NIGHT

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Strategic Gaming Solutions, Inc. has immediate job openings for the following positions:

Finance Manager (1)
Position Summary: Responsible for the entire function and activities of the Finance Department, for applying accounting principles and procedures to analyze financial information, forecast revenue and expenditures, preparing accurate and timely financial reports and statements and ensuring appropriate accounting control procedures.

Position Requirement: Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Business Administration or related area; or four to six years related experience and/or training; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Minimum of three (3) years experience in accounting, in management of financial systems and budgets, financial reporting, financial data analysis and forecasting, auditing, taxation and providing financial advice, preferably in the gaming industry, with progressive supervisory/managerial experience required. Experience as a financial manager who has led a focused, business oriented team. Good oral and written communication skills. Must be a practical, logical and decisive individual with the ability to get the job done. Must be extremely numbers-oriented and computer-literate, with superior spreadsheet skills; proficiency in accounting and Excel software highly preferred.

Application: Applications may be obtained from Club C HR Office, located at the Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan. The detailed job description is available for review by applicants. Deadline for submission of completed application is on August 25, 2014 at 5:00PM.

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Nationals win 8th straight, beat Diamondbacks, 8-1



WASHINGTON (AP)—After three

straight walk-offs, the Washington Nationals went for a cake-walk instead, scoring six runs in the third inning Tuesday night as they ran their winning streak to eight games with an 8-1 victory over the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Stephen Strasburg (10-10) allowed one run and three hits over a season-high eight innings, and Asdrubal Cabrera's bases-clearing double blew the game open to give the Nationals an overdue breather in what is now their longest winning streak since August 2012.

Success had come with suspense for the Nats: four consecutive one-run games, including the last three decided by the final at-bat, and the last two in the 11th inning.

Strasburg struck out four to give him an NL-leading 198 for the season, besting his previous single-season high of 197 in 2012—the year he was shut down early after returning from elbow surgery. He did just what the Nationals needed him to do: eat up innings to give an overtaxed bullpen some rest.

The Nationals sent seven batters to the plate in the third before the Diamondbacks could record an out. Rookie Chase Anderson (7-5) faced six of them, allowing five singles and a walk before he was pulled in the shortest outing of his young career.

Jayson Werth's broken-bat single up the middle scored the first Nationals run, and Ian Desmond's single brought in two more. After Bryce Harper's single loaded the bases, Anderson was pulled for Eury De La Rosa, who gave up Cabrera's drive that took one bounce before hitting the wall in right-center.

Desmond also had a two-run single in the sixth to finish with four RBIs. Werth had three hits.

David Peralta's first-inning home run accounted for all the scoring for the Diamondbacks, who have lost four straight.

Ender Inciarte grounded out in the ninth for the Diamondbacks to finish an 0-for-4 night, ending his team rookie record hitting streak at 18 games.

Braves 7, Pirates 3

In Pittsburgh, Jason Heyward and Andrelton Simmons homered to begin a six-run first inning as the Braves beat the sliding Pirates for their fourth consecutive victory.

The early outburst was enough for Ervin Santana, who allowed three solo homers among nine hits in 5 1-3 innings. Santana (13-6) improved to 8-1 over his past 10 starts.

Pittsburgh has lost six in a row. Starling Marte went deep twice, and Neil Walker added a homer that became the first to reach the Allegheny River beyond right field at PNC

Park this season.

Cubs 4, Mets 1

In New York, Kyle Hendricks and two relievers held New York to four or fewer hits for the fifth straight game and Anthony Rizzo and Javier Baez hit long homers as the Cubs rallied for a victory over the Mets.

Hendricks (5-1) gave up just three hits in seven innings, allowing only Lucas Duda's home run in the fourth. The rookie right-hander won his fourth straight start — yielding four earned runs over 29 1-3 innings.

Neil Ramirez struck out two in a perfect eighth and Hector Rondon allowed a leadoff double but finished the four-hitter for his 18th save.

The Cubs came back once Carlos Torres, making a spot start for Bartolo Colon, was done after five innings.

Angels 4, Red Sox 2

In Boston, Mike Trout and Albert Pujols hit consecutive RBI doubles as the Angels extended their AL West lead with a victory over the Red Sox.

It was the fifth win in six games for the Angels, who moved a half-game ahead of idle Oakland.

David Ortiz reached base four times with a double, single and two walks for the Red Sox, who have lost three of four after winning four straight.

Angels starter C.J. Wilson (10-8) labored through 5 1-3 innings, giving up one run and five hits with five walks and five strikeouts.

Kevin Jepsen worked the ninth for his first save since Sept. 16, 2012. He struck out Ortiz with two on and none out before allowing a run.

Brandon Workman (1-7) lost his sixth straight start, giving up two runs and six hits in seven innings.

Phillies 4, Mariners 1

In Philadelphia, Jerome Williams took a three-hitter into the eighth inning and Andres Blanco hit his first homer in three years as the Phillies beat the Mariners.

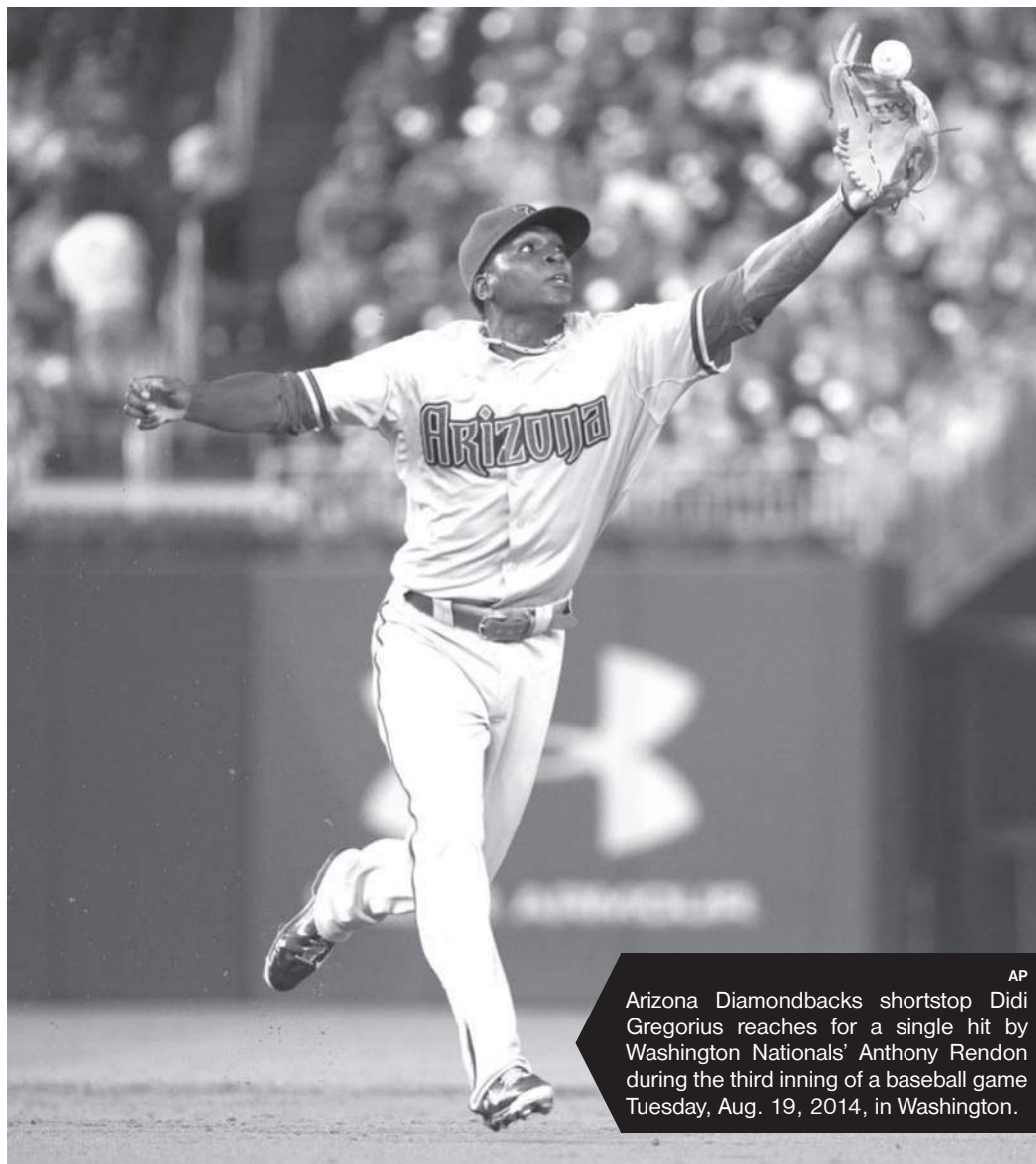
Making his second start since joining the Phillies, Williams (1-0) allowed one run and three hits in seven-plus innings.

Mariners rookie lefty Roenis Elias (9-10) gave up one run and three hits in four innings. He constantly pitched out of jams because he walked six and hit one batter with a pitch.

Blanco connected for a three-run shot off reliever Dominic Leone in the fifth to give the Phillies a 4-0 lead. It was his first home run since July 1, 2011, for Texas against Florida.

Cardinals 6, Reds 5, 10 innings

In St. Louis, Jhonny Peralta's 10th-inning single, his third hit of the game, drove in the win-



AP
Arizona Diamondbacks shortstop Didi Gregorius reaches for a single hit by Washington Nationals' Anthony Rendon during the third inning of a baseball game Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2014, in Washington.

ning run to give the Cardinals a victory over the Reds.

Jay Bruce homered, doubled and knocked in four runs for the Reds, giving him nine RBIs in four games. Brandon Phillips returned from left thumb surgery wearing a brace and was 0 for 4 with a walk.

Logan Ondrusek (3-3) en-

tered with one out in the 10th and gave up consecutive singles to Matt Holliday, Matt Adams and Peralta. Ondrusek (strained right shoulder) was activated from the disabled list earlier in the day.

Peralta's RBI single in the first was just his second in 32 at-bats against the Reds this sea-

son. He also doubled and scored the tying run on A.J. Pierzynski's hit off Jumbo Diaz in the eighth.

Royals 6, Twins 4

In Minneapolis, Erik Kratz homered twice after replacing an ailing Salvador Perez, and Jason Vargas pitched seven

strong innings to lead the first-place Royals to a victory over the Twins.

Vargas (10-5) allowed one run on four hits and struck out three, but had his scoreless innings streak snapped at 17 when Oswaldo Arcia hit a solo homer in the seventh. Perez had two hits and two RBIs before leaving in the seventh because of discomfort in his right knee, helping the Royals win for the 21st time in 26 games.

Kansas City extended its lead over the idle Detroit Tigers in the AL Central to two games.

Trevor May (0-2) gave up three runs on seven hits and walked four in 4 2-3 innings for the Twins.

Orioles 8, White Sox 2

In Chicago, Nick Markakis hit a two-run homer and prevented one with a leaping catch in right field, and Nelson Cruz and J.J. Hardy each added a solo shot to power the Orioles past the White Sox.

Markakis was 3 for 5 with two RBIs and two runs, helping the Orioles increase their AL East lead to 7 1/2 games over the idle New York Yankees.

Cruz hit his 32nd homer, passing White Sox rookie Jose Abreu for the American League lead. Cruz is tied with Mike Stanton of the Miami Marlins for most in the majors.

Bud Norris (11-7) allowed two runs and three hits in seven innings to win his third straight start.

Chicago ace Chris Sale (10-3) yielded three runs and eight hits in six innings. He has dropped two straight decisions.

Pirates activate OF McCutchen off disabled list

PITTSBURGH (AP)—Andrew McCutchen's fractured rib is healed. The reigning National League MVP is hoping his return will have the same effect on the reeling Pittsburgh Pirates.

The Pirates activated the star center fielder off the 15-day disabled list on Tuesday. McCutchen will bat third as Pittsburgh tries to end a season-high six-game losing streak against Atlanta.

McCutchen went on the disabled list last week, retroactive to Aug. 4, with fractured rib cartilage. The Pirates went 5-9 in McCutchen's absence to fall slightly off the pace in the play-off race.

"It's pretty frustrating," Mc-

Cutchen said. "It's like having your best friend out there during a race and you want to go out there and help him and you can't. It's kind of the same thing. Your teammates are out there grinding and we're getting the short end of the stick the last few games."

McCutchen was batting .307 with 17 home runs and 67 RBIs at the time of the injury. He insists he isn't experiencing any lingering pain from the injury, which came after a seemingly routine sacrifice fly against Arizona on Aug. 3. He will wear extra padding for the time being as a precaution but doesn't believe he will be limited in any way.

"I'm going to play the way

I've been playing," he said.

To make room for McCutchen on the 25-man roster, the Pirates sent utility infielder Michael Martinez to Triple-A Indianapolis.

Manager Clint Hurdle hopes the return of the franchise cornerstone will stabilize a lineup that's been in flux for most of the month thanks to a string of injuries to regulars like McCutchen and second baseman Neil Walker.

"I think the presence is valuable," Hurdle said. "The player is valuable but the value the presence does bring is something we would miss whenever he's not in."

The injury came a day after

McCutchen was drilled in the back by a 95 mph fastball Arizona reliever Randall Delgado, which happened to be one game after Diamondbacks first baseman Paul Goldschmidt broke his hand after getting hit by Pirates reliever Ernesto Frieri.

While there was no direct correlation between getting plunked and the ensuing rib issue, McCutchen said he was "a little upset" Delgado was not disciplined.

"There's a chance that someone could get hurt with the same injury that I got because there was nothing that was handled," McCutchen said. "It wouldn't surprise me if something like that would happen again."

Scoring change alters history for Jeter, Wagner

NEW YORK (AP)—Turns out, the hit that tied Derek Jeter with Honus Wagner came a day later than everyone thought.

Major League Baseball made an official scoring change Tuesday that took away an infield single from Jeter on Aug. 8 and instead charged Cleveland first base-

man Carlos Santana with an error on the play.

Originally, that hit pulled Jeter even with Wagner for sixth place on baseball's career list at 3,430. Now, it's an infield single the next day against the Indians that moved Jeter up the chart. And it was his double on Aug. 11 in Bal-

timore that pushed him ahead of Wagner.

Jeter says he has the souvenir ball from that double, thanks to New York Yankees head athletic trainer Steve Donohue. "So there's no story," Jeter said before the Yankees played Houston. "If it was the last hit I'd ever gotten, it would be a story."

The star shortstop, who plans to retire after this season, began the night with 3,435 hits. Tris Speaker is fifth on the career list with 3,514.

The Yankees said it was Cleveland pitcher Trevor Bauer who requested the play be reviewed by MLB. The change saved him two earned runs.

As Durant steps back, US team is moving forward



NEW YORK (AP)—While Kevin Durant takes a step back, the U.S. national team is moving forward.

Durant stunned the Americans when he decided to withdraw after practicing with the team during its first week of training camp. Now that they've had time to get over the surprise, they aren't dwelling on it.

"I'm through talking about Kevin," U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski said Tuesday after the Americans practiced for the upcoming Basketball World Cup.

"We're done with that. We're on to this group. What a coach does, a coach coaches who he has, not who he doesn't have. You're married, you're with that woman, you're not thinking about who you dated."

Durant pulled out Aug. 7, shortly after the Americans finished working out in Las Vegas, where a year earlier he announced his plans to play for the team this summer.

But the NBA's MVP and leading scorer instead decided he needed a break more than he needed to chase another gold medal.

"I think for myself, I just needed to take a step back," Durant said.

So he wasn't in East Rutherford, New Jersey, where the Americans practiced at the Nets' training center. He did catch up with a few teammates though, joining James Harden, Stephen Curry and Anthony Davis on a panel promoting the video game "NBA 2K15," of which Durant appears on the cover.

Durant said his decision to pull out was "definitely tough," adding that playing alongside

Curry in the 2010 world championship was "one of the best experiences of my life."

He was the MVP of that tournament, averaging 22.8 points as the Americans won the event for the first time since 1994. He was their leading scorer again two years ago in the London Olympics, scoring 19.5 points per game.

But the Americans insist they will move on without him.

"We've got to play," Davis said after practice. "We can't sit around and mope because he dropped out."

Davis is one of the reasons the Americans believe they can win without Durant. He was the dominant player in their victory over Brazil on Saturday in Chicago in their exhibition opener. They play Wednesday against the Dominican Republic at Madison Square Garden.

Derrick Rose is expected to play after sitting out the last two practices to rest as he returns from missing most of the last two seasons following knee surgeries.

Davis and Rose are both former overall No. 1 draft picks, part of a deep U.S. roster pool that remains in Durant's absence. Both also have previous international experience, Rose starting for the Americans in Turkey four years ago and Davis a member of the last Olympic team.

As good as Durant is, the Americans don't fear going to Spain without him.

"If you're competitive and you have a job to do and you have a goal, and that is to win another gold medal," USA Basketball managing director Jerry Colangelo said, "you take the hits, you take the lumps, take somebody else and let's go."

Age no opponent for some of NFL's veteran stars



NEW YORK (AP)—There's something stunning happening on Michael Vick's head.

You can't see them from far away, but up close, tiny gray hairs are starting to emerge—color-sapped reminders that the New York Jets quarterback is no longer the speedy youngster fresh out of Virginia Tech.

He turned 34 in June, making him "old" in today's NFL. During minicamp in June, Vick even had a young fullback address him as "sir" in the huddle.

"That baffled me a little bit," Vick said at the time with a chuckle. "I'm not that old and I have to reiterate that over and over again."

But in the time-warped world of professional sports, anything past 30 opens conversations about players being past their prime. If you get to 35, well, then the geriatric jokes start flying.

Rocking chairs and walking canes. "Grandpa" and "Graybeard."

"I think so much of it's a mindset," said 35-year-old Saints quarterback Drew Brees. "If I tell myself I am 25, I'm 25 and that's honest to God. That's my mindset. I can play for another 10 years. That would be my goal, but I'm taking it one year at a time. There's no reason why I couldn't do that."

He would be a rarity in the NFL, where the average age ranges between 25 and 27. The lifespan of most careers in the league lasts somewhere between 3 1/2 and almost seven years, meaning retirement comes at an age when people in most other professional fields are just getting started.

For several players, though, age is an opponent to defy.

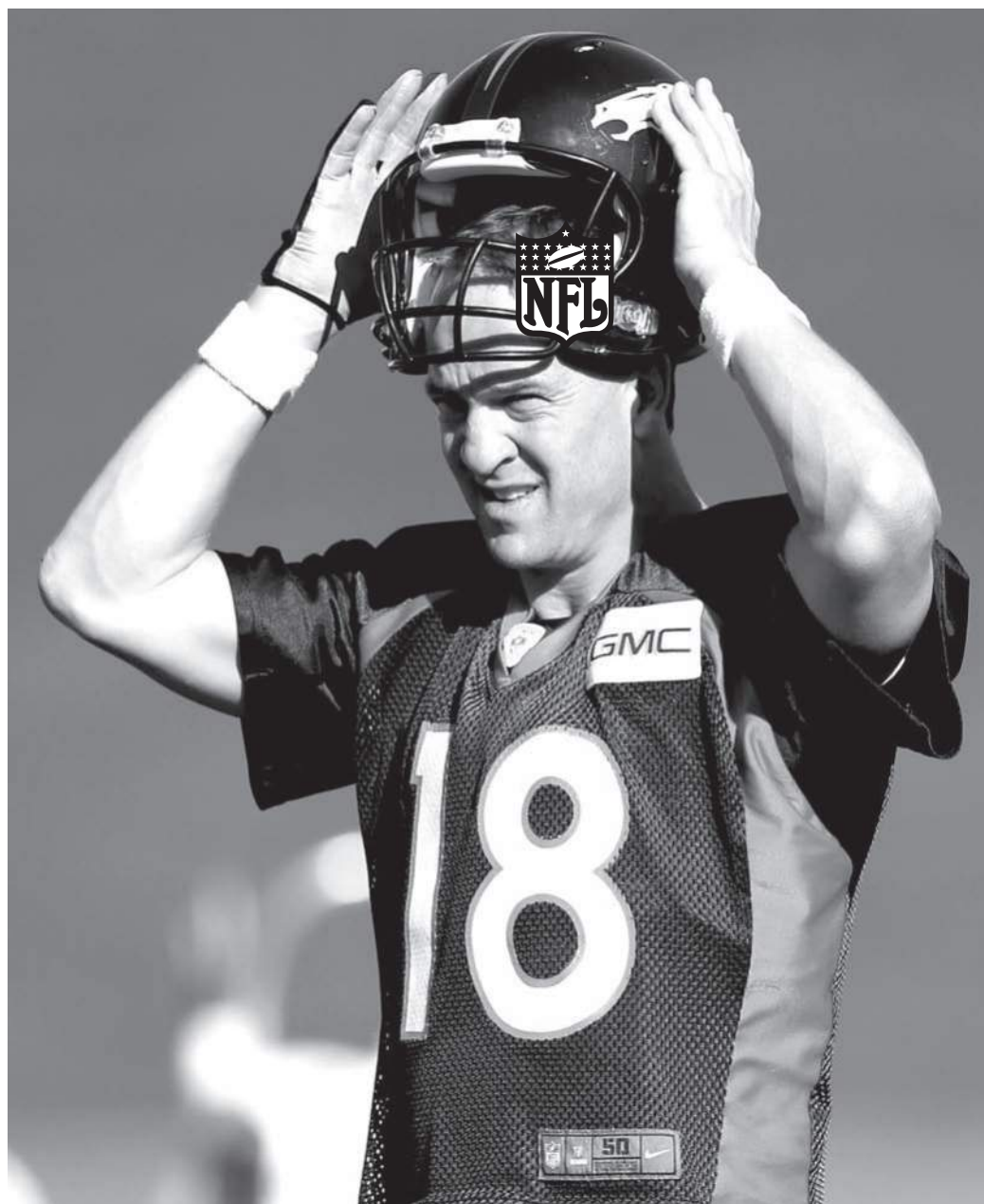
The Colts' 41-year-old Adam Vinatieri is the NFL's oldest active player. While he might not have the leg he did while leading the Patriots to three Super Bowl titles and another with Indianapolis as "Automatic Adam," he's still one of the league's most reliable kickers.

"As long as my body's feeling healthy, I can't see why I can't continue to play," Vinatieri said when he re-signed with the Colts for two years in March.

It's likely no one will ever get close to George Blanda, who was still kicking at 48 for the Raiders in 1975. But there are plenty of other kickers and punters who are nearly right there with Vinatieri.

San Francisco's Phil Dawson (39), Atlanta's Matt Bryant (39), Arizona's Jay Feely (38), Buffalo's Brian Moorman (38), Houston's Shane Lechler (37) and Oakland's Sebastian Janikowski (36) are among those booting away Father Time.

There are plenty of other big-time stars at the so-called "skill" positions who are also still thriving. Just look at Denver's Peyton Manning (38) and



Denver Broncos' Peyton Manning gets ready during the final day of NFL football training camp on Friday, Aug. 15, 2014, in Englewood, Colo.

New England's Tom Brady (37), who are still setting passing records, along with Brees, nearly every season.

"Peyton Manning was what, 37 years old last year and arguably (had) his best year in his career," Brees said. "Brett Favre arguably had his best year of his career when he was 40. There have been perfect examples of the near history that prove that you can continue to play at a very, very high level. I think there are lots of things that go into that."

Preparation, training, strict diets and consistent sleep habits are among them.

"I look forward to driving over here every day," Manning said. "I think as soon as you go, 'Golly, I do not want to go over there today,' that's when you've got to get out."

Even at positions that require top-notch speed, some veterans are competing with the youngsters. Washington's Santana

Moss is 35 and still a valuable part of the Redskins' offense.

"I still can play," said Moss, entering his 14th NFL season. "I told myself I'm not going to count myself out. I'm going to go as long as I can go. I didn't have this dream as a kid to say, 'OK, one day I'm going to put it up.' I'm going to go until I can't go no more."

Baltimore wide receiver Steve Smith knows the feeling. He's also 35 and feels rejuvenated after spending his first 13 seasons in Carolina.

Some defensive backs, such as Charles Woodson (37), Champ Bailey (36), Terrence Newman (35), Adrian Wilson (34), Ike Taylor (34) and Ryan Clark (34) could all be going up against some players 12-15 years younger than them this season.

When you last as long as a guy such as Bears linebacker Lance Briggs, who's 33 and in his 12th season, coaches come and go, and so do teammates.

It's a strange experience, especially when you're the only one still there.

"There's new guys coming in filling up those numbers and those lockers," Briggs said. "That's life. That's the way it is. It's business."

Experience, though, is important to helping a winning franchise. Woodson says it only takes looking at the NBA's champion San Antonio Spurs to know that veteran leadership is key, along with strong play.

"I look at the NFL, every team wants to get younger," said Woodson, entering his 17th season. "They push a lot of the older guys out, guys who can still play the game. I don't think there's any question that it's undervalued. ... Our best days are not behind us just because other people say our best days are behind us."

"We're going out there to play good football and win games, and that's what we intend to do."

Redskins show solidarity with Ferguson protest

LANDOVER, Md. (AP)—The "Hands up, don't shoot" protest has made its way to the NFL.

The Washington Redskins secondary emerged from the stadium tunnel during pregame introductions Monday night with hands raised and palms forward.

It was a show of solidarity with the people in Ferguson, Missouri, who are protesting the shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown. Eleven players took part as the team was preparing to face the Cleveland Browns.

Safety Ryan Clark said Brown "could have been any

one of us. That could have been any one of our brothers, our cousins. ... When you get an opportunity to make a statement and be more than a football player, it's good."

Protesters have gathered daily in Ferguson since Brown was fatally shot by a police officer Aug. 9.



Oklahoma City Thunder's Kevin Durant (52) guards Indiana Pacers' Paul George during the USA Basketball Showcase game Friday, Aug. 1, 2014, in Las Vegas.

Sixers to get Bennett in Love-Wiggins swap?

TORONTO (AP)—The worst kept secret in the NBA right now is that Kevin Love will be traded by the Minnesota Timberwolves before the season begins.

The destination is expected to be Cleveland, with the Cavaliers shipping off No. 1 overall pick Andrew Wiggins to team Love with LeBron James and Kyrie Irving to form the league's latest big three.

It was previously reported that the Sixers—with their ample cap space—could join in the trade to make the deal work or take part in a separate move. Now, according to a report from ESPN's Brian Windhorst (via ProBasketballTalk), the Sixers could ship Thaddeus Young to the Timberwolves and potentially bring back last year's No. 1 pick, Anthony Bennett, from the Cavs.

"Before the papers have been signed, there is this handshake

agreement that Kevin Love to the Cavs, Andrew Wiggins to the Timberwolves, and I believe Thaddeus Young will end up in Minnesota either as part of a separate deal or as part of a three-way deal," Windhorst said. "Possibly, Anthony Bennett, who's on the Cavs right now, could get re-routed to Philadelphia in part of a deal for Thaddeus Young. There will be draft picks involved."

It was reported last week that the Timberwolves were interested in Young to replace the departing Love as part of the transaction with the Cavs or in a separate trade.

Bennett would be brought in to help the Sixers fill Young's void while also giving Sam Hinkie another young asset.

The UNLV product struggled mightily during his rookie season after undergoing shoulder surgery last summer. The 6-foot-8, 259-pound power forward averaged just 4.2 points and 3.0



According to a report, Anthony Bennett, right, could be re-routed to Philadelphia in a deal surrounding Minnesota's Kevin Love and Cleveland's Andrew Wiggins.

rebounds in 12.8 minutes per game last season in Cleveland.

However, Bennett looked much better during summer league action last month after slimming down and undergoing

surgery for sleep apnea that improved his breathing. The Canadian led the Cavs in the Las Vegas Summer League with 13.3 points and 7.8 rebounds per game.

Meanwhile, Bennett is focused on the upcoming NBA season. His uniform is completely out of his control.

Bennett and Wiggins, the last two No. 1 overall NBA draft

picks, are expected to be traded from the Cleveland Cavaliers to the Minnesota Timberwolves in a deal for All-Star forward Kevin Love, perhaps as soon as this weekend.

The blockbuster move can't be finalized until Saturday, when Wiggins is eligible to be traded.

Wiggins deftly danced around questions about his future when he returned to his hometown of Vaughan, Ontario, last week to shoot a commercial.

It was Bennett's turn on Monday when he attended the opening day of the NBA Americas Team Camp at the Mattamy Athletic Centre. The forward wouldn't bite when asked about the reported deal, but said he has kept in touch with Wiggins over the last few weeks.

"We've been going back and forth a lot," Bennett said. "I know he's busy so I don't really try to hit him up too much. But he said he's working too. So there's not much we can do, you know."

Bennett struggled in his rookie season with the Cavaliers, averaging just 4.2 points and 3.0 rebounds in limited action.

He has dropped some weight over the last few months and was impressive in summer league play. Bennett said he learned a lot over the last year and is determined to come back strong next season.

"I can fight through adversity," Bennett said. "It wasn't the best of seasons for me. I will admit that. Fighting the injuries and just the way things were, just never really made me give up. I always just stayed in the gym."

NETTERS

From Page 28

in the semis today with the winner taking on the victor of the Naia Guitton-Eleanor Schuster semis tiff in the finals tomorrow. Samoa's Schuster arranged a semis showdown with Tahiti's Guitton after beating the CNMI's Conatsu Kaga in the tiebreak for the last semis ticket. Kaga won her last pool play match against Samoa's Leafine Cronin, 6-0, 6-0, to finish the elimination round with a 2-1 record, the same mark Schuster had. However, Schuster earned a 4-2 sets won/loss slate compared to the 4-3 of Kaga to catch the last bus to the semis round.

The same tough luck hit Tania Tan, who forced a three-way tie for first place in Group C of the girls U14 singles. She

finished the elimination with a 2-1 record after surviving Fiji's Vienna Kumar, 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, for a standoff against the latter and Vanuatu's Emma Maucotel. In the tiebreak, Kumar prevailed and advanced to the semis with her 5-2 sets won/loss mark against the 4-2 and 4-3 of Maucotel and Tan, respectively. Tan also lost to Fiji's Ruby Coffin in the fight for the fourth and last semis seat with the latter having a 4-2 sets won/loss slate.

With Tan falling short in her semis bid, the CNMI will have only one bet in the girls U14 singles semis in the unbeaten Lee. Lee kept her perfect record in the elimination after blanking Namratya Nand of Fiji, 6-0, 6-0. The shutout win yesterday was the second for Lee, who allowed only two points in the entire pool play and never lost a single set to dom-

inate Group A. The top-ranked Lee aims to keep her streak when she faces Coffin in the upper bracket semis today. In the lower bracket, Kumar will take on New Caledonia's Lea Bolo.

In the boys U14 singles, Lizama also went 6-0 (sets loss/won), following his 6-2, 6-1 victory over Vanuatu's Ben Pechan. Lizama topped Group C and will be pitted against Group B winner Michael Emery of Tahiti in the semifinals. American Samoa's Larry Maglasan and Tahiti's Honarli Joutain will square off in the other semis pairing.

In other singles results, Colin Ramsey finally entered the win column in the boys U16 singles after sweeping Fiji's Shivneel Chand, 6-1, 6-0. Ramsey finished third in Group B with his 1-2 record, missing the semis

and will have to play in the consolation round. Tahiti's Manoa Desvignes, American Samoa's Jummah Vigas and Kevin Maukoloa, and the Federated States of Micronesia's Terry Rush are the semifinalists in the boys U16 singles.

Julia Ishilawa, Ami Tsukagoshi Ken Song, and Asia Raulerson will also play in the consolation games after faltering in their semis bids. Song had a 1-2

record in Group A after a sorry 6-1, 4-6, 10-6 loss to Vanuatu's Samuel Strid yesterday in the boys U12 singles, while Raulerson (1-2) also dropped her last pool match in the same age group, bowing to Guitton, 0-6, 0-6. In the girls U14 singles, Ishikawa and Tsukagoshi fell to Bolo, 1-6, 1-6, and American Samoa's Michelle Miller, 3-6, 0-6, respectively, to place third in their respective groups.

ROP

From Page 28

Camacho of MCAMMA open the MMA action in a 125-lb bout.

The 10 other initial MMA fights in tomorrow night's ROP 17 will have the following pairings: Tan "Titan" Taisacan of Team Shocker vs Lucas "Irish Zombie" Nutting; Dustin Smith of HBP Guam vs Garry "Dissa" Ray of Pwange; Ray "Faluwasch" Teregeyo of Team Shocker vs Jon "Outlaw" Camacho of Down2Scrap; Peter "Short Fuse" Ayuyu of Tinian vs Frank Quidachay of HBP Guam; independent fighter John Tudela vs Mike Mendiola of HBP Guam; Renz "The Intense" Benghit of Team Intense vs independent Jun Taitingfong; Ethan "Typhoon" Reyes of UMA Guam vs Jordan "The Machine" Manglona of Trench Tech/Zalaka; Rocky "The Rockstar" Quichocho of Guam Muay Thai vs Myron "The Natural" San Nicolas of Trench Tech; Daniel "Flowmotion" Floor vs Vince "The Clinch" Masga of Trench Tech; and Eric "Gatty" Gatman of GMT vs Keith "K OZ" Ogo of Team Luta.

For the semi main event, it will be Guam versus Saipan with HBP Guam's Ernie Santos facing Trench Tech's Mark "The Dark" Nuique in a 125-lb flyweight super fight. Santos is

aiming to extend his streak, as he holds a 3-0 win-loss record, according to Sherdog. He registered his first two wins via submissions in the first round during PXC Live 6 in 2009 (against Dwayne Padua) and PXC Combat 20 in 2010 (against Chad Sholing). His recent recorded victory was logged on Jan. 21, 2011 when he earned a TKO (doctor stoppage) win in the second round against Matt Quenga during the PXC Combat 22.

Sherdog, a website that features MMA and UFC information, listed Nuique's record at 8-3. The Trench Tech warrior won his first eight bouts and dropped the last three with the recent loss posted just last June 27, 2014 at PXC Combat 44. Nuique bowed to McKlane Alfred via rear-naked choke in the first round.

Meanwhile, Ryan "The Predator" Toves of HBP Guam and Vince "Vincsanity" Pua of Marianas Elite will close out the night with their lightweight title fight.

Pua, who holds a 3-1 record, hopes to make it two in a row against Toves. The Marianas Elite fighter notched a TKO win (slam) over Toves at the 2:47 mark of the first round of their bout in Trech Warz 15: Supremacy on Dec. 26, 2011.

Pua and the 33 other fighters will have their weigh-ins at GIG tonight from 5pm to 7pm.

FIESTA

From Page 28

Club for the top spot. Fiesta, which missed a perfect record in the regular season after losing to Shirley's Coffee Shop/Century Hotel last week, 70-76, went on to win the tiebreak via win-over-the-other rule as it defeated PIC, 77-76, in their July 24 encounter.

The victory over Kanoa and the No. 1 spot in the seven-team field also gave Fiesta a bye in the playoff round, which starts tonight. Shirley's Century, which finished fourth with its 4-2 record, duels defending champion and fifth-ranked Hyatt Regency Saipan in the first playoff match at 7:30pm with the loser taking on Fiesta next week. In the other first round pairing tonight, the third-seeded World Resort (4-2), which edged Shirley's/Century in the tiebreak, challenges the six-ranked Kanoa Resort (1-5). PIC and cellar dweller Mariana Resort (0-6) complete the first round pairing and they will

square off on Tuesday at 10pm. The playoff round has a double-elimination format.

Fiesta will go the playoffs with a momentum on its side, following a lopsided win over the depleted Kanoa Resort, which suited up in its last game in the regular season with only five players and missed gunner Matt Duenas.

Despite its shorthanded roster, Kanoa Resort managed to stay in the game in the first quarter, falling behind by only a point, 16-17. Domingo David and Fred Litulumar kept Kanoa in the match, scoring 6 points apiece in the opening canto. Djay Ong also had 6 markers for Fiesta, while Elmer Esdreton and Lerio Pagarao combined for 9.

Paul Quizon missed the first quarter for Fiesta, but showed up in the second with his guns blazing, dropping 12 of his 18 points to lead the team's breakaway. He scored 2 more points than the total output of Kanoa to power Fiesta to a 44-26 halftime lead.

Only three players hit the board for Kanoa in the second quarter and Litulumar was the lone player to nail more than one field goal in the meltdown.

Kanoa never recovered from thereon, as it clearly lacked manpower to counter Fiesta Resort's firepower. Besides Quizon, three other Fiesta players finished in twin digits with Ong adding 17 and Jared Matsutaro and Pagarao contributing 14 each. Esdreton, Rex Demafelix, and Adonis Macoto totaled 19 more points for Fiesta. Dindo Pablo led Kanoa with his 20 markers, while Litulumar and David chipped in 18 and 12, respectively.

Fiesta Resort 86 – Quizon 18, Ong 17, Matsutaro 14, Pagarao 14, Esdreton 7, Demafelix 6, Macoto 6, Manalo 2, Lavarias 2.

Kanoa Resort 66 – Pablo 20, Litulumar 18, David 12, Lumawag 7, Armia 6.

Scoring by quarters: 17-16, 44-26, 64-43, 86-66.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	72	52	.581	—
New York	63	60	.512	8½
Toronto	64	62	.508	9
Tampa Bay	61	64	.488	11½
Boston	56	69	.448	16½

Central Division

Kansas City	70	55	.560	—
Detroit	67	56	.545	2
Cleveland	63	61	.508	6½
Chicago	59	67	.468	11½
Minnesota	55	69	.444	14½

West Division

Los Angeles	74	50	.597	—
Oakland	74	51	.592	½
Seattle	68	57	.544	6½
Houston	53	73	.421	22
Texas	48	77	.384	26½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	71	53	.573	—
Atlanta	66	60	.524	6
Miami	63	62	.504	8½
New York	59	68	.465	13½
Philadelphia	55	71	.437	17

Central Division

Milwaukee	71	55	.563	—
St. Louis	68	57	.544	2½
Pittsburgh	64	62	.508	7
Cincinnati	61	65	.484	10
Chicago	55	70	.440	15½

West Division

Los Angeles	71	56	.559	—
San Francisco	65	59	.524	4½
San Diego	58	66	.468	11½
Arizona	53	73	.421	17½
Colorado	49	76	.392	21

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Opening of CNMI 'My Pal' Special Sports Fest

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



A representative from one of the participating teams in the sports fest joins the torch-lighting ceremony.



A representative from Red Team lights the flame during the opening of the CNMI "My Pal" Special Sports Fest held last Monday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.



Participants and volunteers join the parade of teams.



Participants wait for the start of the flame lighting ceremony.



Players and volunteers pose for a photo while waiting for the start of the flame-lighting ceremony.



A representative from Blue Team lights the flame.



Participants recite the sportsmanship pledge.



Participants and volunteers get ready for the start of the parade.



More participants recite the sportsmanship pledge.



Participants and volunteers perform warm-up drills.



Nationals win 8th straight, beat Diamondbacks, 8-1

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Saipan Tribune Sports



As Durant steps back, US team is moving forward

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

4 CNMI jr. netters enter semis

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Four CNMI junior tennis players kept their spotless record in pool play to march into the semifinals of their respective events in the 2014 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships.

Robbie Schorr went 3-0 in Group B to clinch one of the Final Four spots in the boys U12 singles division. The Whispering Palms student recorded a sweep in his pool after defeating Samoa's Phillip Warren, 6-0, 6-2, yesterday at the Dr. Robin Mitchell Tennis Centre in Lautoka, Fiji.



Next up for the second-ranked Schorr is Vanuatu's Clement Mainguy, as they battle for the finals berth at the lower half of the draw today. Top seed Gilhian Osmont of Tahiti and Kiribati's Banien Ioera collide in the other semis pairing. The top finisher in each pool

(three groups) were given semis berths, while the last Final Four slot was awarded to the player that had the best record among the third to fourth placers in the three pools.

Malika Miyawaki, Carol Lee, and Luther Lizama ruled their respective pools to duplicate Schorr's semis stint.

Miyawaki reigned supreme in Group C of the girls U 12 singles after topping Vanuatu's Rosalie Molballeh, 6-2, 6-2. With her 3-0 slate in the pool, the third-ranked Miyawaki will be paired against the fourth-seeded Lea Lamorelle of Tahiti

See NETTERS on Page 26

Fiesta recovers, gets top seed

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan gained the top seed in the 2014 Budweiser Inter-Hotel Basketball League after routing

ing Kanoa Resort, 86-66, in the final regular season game last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Fiesta finished the round-robin preliminary with a 5-1 record, tying Pacific Islands



See FIESTA on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Fiesta's Elmer Esdrelon pulls up for a short jumper during their earlier game in the Inter-Hotel caging against World Resort at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Fiesta finished first in the regular season of the seven-team league.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Carol Lee, seen here getting ready to serve in a local tournament at the American Memorial Park tennis courts early this year, is among the four CNMI junior players who advanced to the semifinals of the 2014 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji.

Fight roster for ROP 17 complete

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

All is set for tomorrow's Rites of Passage 17: Road to Glory, as the fight cards were completed yesterday.

Two fighters were added to the list with Jones Langu from Red Ants Academy seeing action in one of the three kickboxing matches and WFO's Frankie Ramangmao having his MMA debut. Langu was the latest addition to ROP 17 that will be held at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort, as he replaced the injured Paul "Showtime" Muna. Langu will challenge Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez in the third K1 bout that has a catch weight at 135 lbs.

In the first two K1 tiffs, Jayvin "The Prodigy" Santos of Ultimate Martial Arts Guam will collide with Matthew "Might Mouse" Sablan of Red Ants

Academy in a 125-lb bout, while at 155 lbs, Jorell "Evasive" Meno of Ultimate Martial Arts Guam will take on Jamaal "The Striker" Mresbang of Team Strikeforce.

Ramangmao will compete in one of the 12 preliminary MMA events after accepting the chal-

TRENCIA TECH

lenge to duel spitfire Allan "The Silver Bullet" Aguon at 130 lbs.

The Ramangmao-Aguon collision will take place after Leo "The Lion King" Mendiola of Guam and Jay "Bonbon"

See ROP on Page 26



San Nicolas

Quichocho